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STATEMENT ON ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING

BK171214 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 17 Aug 87

["Statement on the ASEAN foreign ministers informal meeting held on 16 August 1987 in Bangkok"]

[Text] On 16 August 1987 an informal meeting of the ASEAN foreign ministers was held in Bangkok to discuss the outcome of the meeting between the Indonesian foreign minister, ASEAN's interlocutor with Vietnam, and Vietnamese leaders in Ho Chi Minh City on 29 July 1987.

The ASEAN foreign ministers expressed appreciation to Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja for his efforts to find a way to begin talks between the Cambodian factions and Vietnam.

The ASEAN foreign ministers welcome the initiative of a cocktail party or an informal meeting to begin the talks between Vietnam and the Cambodian factions. The proposal for an informal meeting as contained in Paragraph 4 of the joint Indonesian-Vietnamese communique on 29 July 1987 means one meeting, initially among the Cambodian factions, followed immediately by the participation of Vietnam. The ASEAN foreign ministers await Vietnam's response for realizing such a meeting.

The ASEAN foreign ministers also await a reaction from the CGDK on this initiative, noting that the elements of the CGDK's eight-point proposal will form the basis of discussion at the proposed cocktail party.

The Thai foreign minister, in his capacity as chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee, is assigned by the ASEAN foreign ministers to discuss this matter with Prince Norodom Sihanouk during his visits to Beijing and Pyongyang between 18 and 25 August.

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N O R T H E A S T A S I A
JAPAN

A 1

MITI'S TAMURA CAUTIONS U.S. OFFICIAL ON TRADE BILLS

OW171027 Tokyo KYODO in English 1019 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Excerpts] Tokyo, Aug 17 KYODO -- International Trade and Industry Minister Hajime Tamura said Monday that proposed omnibus trade bills in the U.S. Congress could not only hurt the free trade system but might also endanger the "legitimacy" of the Paris-based coordinating committee (COCOM) [Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls], a multinational group to control exports to the communist bloc.

He made the comment in a meeting with U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce Bruce Smart. Tamura told Smart that although he understands "irritation" in the legislature over the huge U.S. trade imbalance with Japan, "we must avoid errors such scolding the other's child." The U.S. trade negotiator shared Tamura's concern, according to government officials. [passage omitted]

Tamura pledged that Japan will amend the foreign exchange and foreign trade control law to increase the maximum penalty for violations to a prison term of five years from the present three years. The Diet, the Japanese parliament, is to start deliberations on the proposed amendment on August 20. MITI also plans to increase the number of COCOM inspectors from 60 to 80 by next April.

Smart is to take part in consultations Tuesday over auto parts trade under the market-oriented and sector-selective (MOSS) formula.

DEFENSE AGENCY CHIEF WANTS RECOMMENDATION ON FIGHTER

OW180409 Tokyo KYODO in English 0358 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 18 KYODO -- Defense Agency Director General Yuko Kurihara said Tuesday he has urged agency officials to finalize their recommendations on Japan's next fighter plane so he can make a decision on the issue. The project, overseen by the Air Staff Office of the Air Self-Defense Force [ASDF] involves the selection of a new fighter to replace a fleet of aging F-1 ASDF ground support fighters.

Kurihara told reporters he wants to have the recommendation from the agency fighter project team so he can decide on the issue during his tenure in office.

Kurihara talked to the press on the fighter issue following a meeting with Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone Tuesday morning. As a member of the Nakasone cabinet, Kurihara will step down as defense chief when the prime minister's term of office ends in October.

The Kurihara-Nakasone meeting came amid a spate of conflicting reports on how the Defense Agency wants to proceed with regard to the new fighter. Lately, a compromise plan is also said to be under study in the agency to jointly develop a new fighter with the United States, probably using an existing fighter as a model.

Industry sources said a delegation of Japanese aircraft makers was leaving for Washington Tuesday for a two-week visit to find out more about joint development possibilities with U.S. aircraft makers. The group, which is traveling on the Defense Agency's behalf, is expected to return to Japan on September 3 and report its findings to the government.

Kurihara is scheduled to visit to Washington in late September for talks with Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, and the fighter project is expected to feature in the agenda.

JOINT U.S. AIR EXERCISE BEGINS OFF SHIKOKU

OW171111 Tokyo KYODO in English 1028 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] Shimomi, Miyazaki Pref. Aug. 17 KYODO -- A three-day joint exercise between the Air Self-Defense force [ASDF] and the U.S. Navy started Monday off Shikoku, ASDF officials said.

Four F-15 Eagle and four F4-EJ Phantom fighters of the ASDF's 5th air link at the Nyutabaru base in Miyazaki Prefecture, four F/A-18 Hornets assigned to the U.S. aircraft carrier Midway, and an E2C early warning aircraft are taking part in the drills, the officials said.

About 500 people gathered at the gate in front of the base gate to protest the military maneuvers.

KYODO SUMMARIZES ECONOMIC WHITE PAPER

OW180311 Tokyo KYODO in English 0209 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 18 KYODO -- The following is a summary of the just-announced 41st white paper on the economy:

-- Shrinking trade surplus.

Japan's current account balance posted a record 94.1 billion dollar surplus in fiscal 1986, equivalent to 4.5 percent of the country's gross national product (GNP), the highest ratio of current account surplus to GNP registered by any of the major western democracies in the postwar period.

But on a seasonally adjusted basis, the upward trend started to slow down in late 1986 and on a monthly basis the current account surplus shrank significantly to 7.07 billion dollars in May 1987 from a peak of 8.72 billion dollars in February 1987.

The shrinkage in the current account surplus stems from both a decrease in the merchandise trade surplus and a bigger deficit in tourist trade. In terms of volume, exports suffered a 1.3 percent fall in fiscal 1986, ended last March, while imports increased 14.1 percent. In particular, imports of manufactured goods rose 34.7 percent to 55.22 billion dollars, accounting for 44.1 percent of the country's overall imports.

-- Huge capital outflows.

The net outflow of long-term capital jumped to 144.7 billion dollars in fiscal 1986 reflecting active overseas investment.

Japanese companies rushed to invest money earned from exports into overseas operations including local production, establishment of overseas subsidiaries and purchases of real estate. Overseas direct investment doubled to a record 15.2 billion dollars during the year, compared with 7.6 billion dollars the previous year. Japanese investors like life insurance firms remained net buyers of foreign stocks worth 10.8 billion dollars in fiscal 1986, dramatically up from 1.7 billion dollars in the preceding year, and purchased foreign bonds worth 99 billion dollars in excess of sales up from 63.5 billion dollars.

-- Economy picking up.

Gross national product (GNP) grew only 2.6 percent overall in fiscal 1986, the lowest growth rate since the first oil crisis in fiscal 1974, when the GNP fell 0.3 percent. The growth rate would have been 1.5 percentage points higher but for external factors, while the 4.1-point contribution of domestic factors was the highest since fiscal 1979.

Judging from adjusted inventory and a recovery in mining and manufacturing production, the economy began to pick up at the start of 1987 after a 15-month slump due to the yen's sharp advance against the dollar.

Firms reliant on exports, hard hit by the strong yen, also began to recover from the slump in early 1987, though their profit ratio still remains low.

The government's pump-priming fiscal measures, announced in May which will pour 6 trillion yen into public works and other projects, are expected to stimulate domestic demand, and lead to an increase of 5-6 billion yen in imports.

-- Economic restructuring.

Japan's rapid economic development, which has been led mainly by exports since the first oil crisis, has widened a productivity gap between manufacturers and nonmanufacturers. As a result of this wide gap, Japan's consumer prices, closely related to nonmanufacturers, rose 6.2 percent between 1973 and 1986 compared with a 3.5 percent increase in wholesale prices, centering on trade goods, during the same period.

The export-led economic structure has prevented the strong yen from contributing to improving the living standards of the Japanese people. Japan's per-capita GNP totaled 18,779 dollars in fiscal 1986, compared with 16,666 dollars in 1985 in the U.S. but most Japanese do not believe the figure reflects the actual living standards of people in the two countries.

To achieve a sustained expansion in domestic demand, as targeted by the current restructuring of the economy, will require improvements in productivity in the nonmanufacturing sector, higher technological levels, shorter working hours, more jobs, higher living standards and upgrading of social capital stock like roads and parks.

Given mounting criticism over the higher prices of Japanese agricultural products compared with foreign ones, Japanese farmers are urged to reduce their prices by raising productivity.

Japan's large-scale retailers are expanding overseas operations and are developing computerized information networks like the value added network (VAN), responding to changes in consumer needs. But a more efficient distribution market is required in order to promote expansion of domestic demand.

Japan's unemployment rate rose to a record high of 3 percent in 1986, affected by the strong yen. The jobless figure threatens to rise further as a result of a growing trend by Japanese firms to shift production overseas.

Skyrocketing land prices in the Tokyo metropolitan area, encouraged by massive office openings by foreign financial institutions, have become a serious social problem, which raises the possibility of government intervention.

-- Conclusion.

Japan's high economic growth has enabled the nation to achieve the second largest GNP among western democracies. But the people are complaining about high consumer prices, little leisure time and worsening living conditions, especially in big cities. The government has begun to seek public support in carrying out a restructuring of the economy into one more harmonious with the world community, without which it will not be possible to create a social framework in which each member of society can achieve his or her dream.

Further Report

OW180217 Tokyo KYODO in English 0149 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Tokyo, Aug. 18 KYODO -- The restructuring of the Japanese economy under the impact of the strong yen should lead to higher living standards by reducing consumer prices, increasing leisure hours and improving housing conditions, the Economic Planning Agency said in a report published Tuesday. The white paper on the economy for fiscal 1987, approved at a cabinet meeting, said that despite Japan being the second largest economic power among the western democracies, the people are complaining about the present level of the standard of living. There is a strong uneasiness among ordinary people that Japan will become isolated in the international community as a result of mounting foreign dissatisfaction over its huge and expanding trade imbalance, and the 497-page report, the 41st in a series.

Pointing to a decrease in exports and an increase in imports, both in terms of volume, the government report said the economy has become less dependent on exports, with economic growth relying more on an expansion in domestic demand in fiscal 1986, which ended in March.

After registering a record high of 94.1 billion dollars in fiscal 1986, Japan's current account surplus started to shrink in the first quarter of calendar 1987, due to a fall in the merchandise trade surplus and a bigger deficit in invisible trade such as tourism, it said. Japan's gross national product (GNP) grew by 2.6 percent in fiscal 1986, the lowest increase since the first oil crisis reduced the GNP for the first time in fiscal 1974, it said. But it said the fiscal 1986 economic growth stemmed from domestic factors alone. The overall annual growth rate of 2.6 percent would have been 1.5 percentage points higher but for external factors, it said, adding that the 4.1-point contribution of domestic factors was the highest since 1979.

The economy "bottomed out at the start of 1987 and then began to pick up following a long slump caused by the yen's sharp advance against the dollar since September 1985," the report said. It added, however, that shifting production bases overseas causes domestic unemployment and inefficiency in the agriculture and distribution industries, resulting in higher prices for agricultural products and higher consumer prices.

The report concluded that the restructuring of the economy into one more harmonious with the rest of the world must be implemented without hurting the "solidarity" of Japanese society. [as received] [passage omitted]

NODONG SINMUN ON U.S. 'DUTY BOUND' ROLE IN TALKS

SK181017 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] Pyongyang August 18 (KCNA) -- It is a bounden duty of the United States to participate in disarmament negotiations which will discuss the question of averting war and preserving peace on the Korean peninsula.

The United States must neither turn its face away from nor fight shy of negotiations for arms reduction.

NODONG SINMUN Tuesday stresses this is a signed article entitled "The United States Is Duty Bound To Participate in Disarmament Negotiations."

Disarmament is by no means of unilateral nature, but all parties concerned which keep armed forces on the Korean peninsula are obliged to take part in it, the article says, and goes on:

Nobody can deny the fact that arms reduction should involve not only the People's Army in the North and the "ROK Army" and U.S. forces in the South. [sentence as received] Hence, all parties concerned should come out to the table for talks on arms reduction.

Moreover, the United States keeps stationing its aggression forces and deploying its nuclear weapons in South Korea and holds the prerogative of supreme command over the "ROK Army." No less important is the fact that the United States is a signatory to the Armistice Agreement.

It is entirely because of the U.S. imperialists' military occupation of South Korea and their belligerent manoeuvres that Korea has been divided, the Korean issue has become so complicated as it is today, the situation has been aggravated and the danger of war is increasing.

The article further says:

As for the pending issues including that of national reunification for the Korean people, they are from A to Z issues to be solved within the nation which permit of no outside interference.

Internal affairs of the nation pertaining to national reunification, as clarified in the statement of the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman, should be solved through premiers talks which the North and the South have already discussed to reach understanding. And the problem of disarmament should be solved without fail through talks between the foreign ministers of the North and the South of Korea with the participation of the U.S. secretary of state, the parties concerned.

At present, the United States is holding a series of talks surrounding the issues of international detente and nuclear disarmament. Under such circumstances, there can be no pretext or reason whatsoever for it to reject negotiations with us for detente and disarmament on the Korean peninsula, a region fraught with the greatest danger of war.

The point is if the United States truly wants peace on the Korean peninsula.

The United States must not misunderstand the nature of a solution to the Korean issue, but accede of necessity to our proposal for disarmament negotiations.

DAILY VIEWS DISARMAMENT AS PREREQUISITE TO PEACE

SK160942 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0828 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Pyongyang August 16 (KCNA) -- The termination of the military confrontation between the North and the South through disarmament is a prerequisite to defusing the tension now prevailing on the Korean peninsula and removing the danger of war therefrom and dispelling the misunderstanding and distrust between the North and the South and promoting bilateral understanding and trust, declares NODONG SINMUN today in a signed article captioned "Disarmament is Prerequisite to Peace."

The article goes on:

Huge armed forces are now standing in confrontation along the Military Demarcation Line dividing the Korean peninsula.

If the present situation is allowed to continue this will inevitably lead to a military conflict in Korea. And no doubt, this will develop into a nuclear war, global thermonuclear war, as South Korea has been reduced to a huge nuclear arsenal.

Disarmament, therefore, presents itself as a pressing and urgent matter whose solution brooks not a moment's delay for the peaceful solution of the Korean question.

The realisation of disarmament for the settlement of the Korean question is urgently required also for dispelling the distrust and misunderstanding between the North and the South and building the bridge of trust between them and making a breakthrough toward the peaceful reunification of the country.

The military confrontation between the North and the South constitutes not only a big factor of threat to peace in Korea but the root cause of misunderstanding and distrust.

The termination of the military confrontation through complete disarmament alone makes it possible to remove all sorts of misunderstanding and distrust, build the bridge of mutual trust and unity, successfully go ahead with the North-South dialogue and seek a satisfactory solution to all problems in the way of reunification. Nothing is more pressing and urgent in promoting the independent and peaceful reunification of the country through the improvement of the North-South relations than putting an end to the military confrontation through complete disarmament.

Of late we advanced an option to have a multinational negotiation for arms reduction and clarified our stand to solve the pending questions between the North and the South through the premiers talks which had been under debate. This is one more clear manifestation of our sincere wishes and efforts to ease the tense situation on the Korean peninsula and open a bright prospect for the national reunification as quickly as possible.

It is of urgent necessity to solve the question of disarmament before anything else if the dialogue is to make a smooth progress in a right direction to defuse tension and preserve and consolidate peace in Korea and promote the peaceful reunification of Korea.

The U.S. and South Korean authorities should respond to our offer for a multinational negotiation without delay for the realisation of disarmament and the just solution of the Korean question.

ARMS REDUCTION TERMED 'URGENT DEMAND' OF REALITY

SK171027 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] Pyongyang August 17 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN today carries a signed article entitled "Arms Reduction on the Korean Peninsula Is Urgent Demand of Reality."

The article says:

Arms reduction in the North and the South of Korea and the withdrawal of U.S. forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea are urgently required by reality to ease the acute tensions and achieve a durable peace on the Korean peninsula and preserve peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said:

"At present the Korean peninsula is the place of the greatest danger of nuclear war. Nowhere in the world are different types of nuclear weapons deployed so densely as in South Korea. South Korea is the most dangerous hotbed of nuclear war. If a nuclear war breaks out in the Korean peninsula, it can easily become a global thermonuclear war."

Today huge armed forces of the North and the South are standing in acute confrontation with each other with the Military Demarcation Line in between on the Korean peninsula.

South Korea has turned into a nuclear powder magazine, and nuclear weapons are not a monopoly of certain people. Under such circumstances, if a war breaks out in Korea, it will easily become a nuclear war, a global thermo-nuclear war, and this will inflict grave disasters upon the whole of mankind, to say nothing of the Korean nation.

This is the reason why easing the tensions of the Korean peninsula is the focal point of world politics.

Noting that the DPRK Government's proposal for multi-national negotiations for arms reduction is a signal [as received] disarmament initiative aimed at opening up a decisive phase for the relaxation of tensions on the Korean peninsula and promotion of its peaceful reunification, the article goes on:

In particular, the decision of the DPRK Government to unilaterally reduce the numerical strength of the Korean People's Army by 100,000 officers and men by the end of 1987 is a living example of arms reduction. It clearly shows our peaceloving resolve to achieve a genuine relaxation of tensions.

Their approach to our proposal for multi-national disarmament negotiations is a touchstone showing the stand of peace or war, the stand of reunification or division.

If the United States and the South Korean authorities truly want peace on the Korean peninsula and its peaceful reunification and world peace, they should pay deep attention to our fair disarmament proposal before they doubt it, and show a positive response to it.

PYONGYANG MEETING MARKS 42D LIBERATION ANNIVERSARY

Kim Yong-chae Speech

SK171218 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1130 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Speech by Kim Yong-chae, minister of communications and chairman of the Korean-Soviet Friendship Society Central Committee, at a meeting held on the afternoon of 14 August at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang to mark the 42d anniversary of national liberation -- portions recorded]

[Text] [Begin Kim recording] Comrades: Our people are now meaningfully greeting the 42d anniversary of national liberation amid an environment in which the entire population is engaged in a solemn struggle to attain the complete victory of socialism and the historic cause of national reunification by vigorously carrying out the three revolutions -- ideological, technical, and cultural -- following the historic policy speech delivered by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song at the First Session of the Eighth SPA under the tested guidance of the great WPK.

By taking the lead in the revolution at the darkest hour of the people's suffering under the Japanese imperialists' rule, shouldering the fate of the nation and people by himself, Comrade Kim Il-song, whom our people have come to greet and uphold as the great leader, illuminated with the shining rays of the chuche idea a genuine path for the Korean revolution to follow; established the Korean Revolutionary Army, the first revolutionary armed forces of the Korean people, with the advanced workers, peasants, and patriotic youths; and organized and led the heroic anti-Japanese armed struggle.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song led the Korean revolution as a whole, with the anti-Japanese armed struggle as its core, in a way that effected uninterrupted upsurges by sagaciously organizing and leading the military and political activities of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army [KPRA] by presenting the chuche-oriented revolutionary lines and military strategy and tactics. [applause]

Under the wise leadership of the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song, whom they uphold as the great leader of the revolution as well as the great sun of the nation, members of the KPRA and patriotic people victoriously explored the path of the Korean revolution while dealing a severe blow to the Japanese imperialist aggressors by displaying their ever-victorious and invincible fighting spirit and unrivaled heroism.

Thanks to the outstanding ideology and theories, strategy and tactics, and uncommon leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who led the anti-Japanese armed struggle on a single victorious road, the Korean communist movement and the struggle for national liberation were tenaciously staged at a new higher level.

The Korean communists and members of the KPRA, whom the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song indoctrinated and trained in the course of the arduous anti-Japanese armed struggle, positively defended the Soviet Union, the first socialist state the world has ever seen, with arms, by dealing political and military blows to the Japanese imperialist aggressors, who were then scheming to provoke a war of aggression against the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Army which, bearing the brunt of World War II, was victorious in the war against Germany, participated without letup in the war against Japan. The Soviet Army, together with the KPRA, which entered into a sacred war for the liberation of the country, performed brilliant feats in crushing Japanese imperialism, and a large number of the officers and men of the Red Army sacrificed their noble youths.

Marking the 42d anniversary of national liberation, I am extending my greetings to the Soviet people and Army who helped our people's cause of liberation... the sacred war of annihilating Japanese imperialism. [applause]

Our people have embarked on a proud road of marching toward constructing a wealthy and prosperous new fatherland with the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who ushered in a new spring of national liberation, upholding him at the head of the party and state and uniting strongly around him.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The liberation of our country ended the nearly 50-year-long colonial rule of our country by the Japanese imperialists, has achieved the cause of national liberation, and opened a boulevard of building a new Korea.

Over the past 40 years our country's liberation has shone as a glorious course in which our people have not only brought about world-renowned changes in the struggle for independence, sovereignty, and socialist construction, but also have made a great contribution to the development of the times and history through the embodiment of the immortal chuche idea.

By brilliantly inheriting the chuche-oriented revolutionary cause pioneered by the great leader, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is wisely leading the revolutionary struggle of our party and people for the final consummation of the revolutionary cause as well as the construction projects on a single victorious road of uninterrupted advancement. [applause]

Our revolution has now reached a new high peak of imbuing society with the chuche idea, and, with far-reaching hope and firm conviction in their victory in the future, our people are vigorously struggling to hasten the complete victory of socialism.

Indeed, in the 40 years since national liberation, our people have built a new society in the fatherland in which the people can lead a happy life by effecting great social changes unprecedented in the history of our fatherland and by realizing the enormous cause of construction, and in the process have performed shining feats in socialist construction.

All the victories and successes attained by our people in the revolutionary struggle and building of a new fatherland are the fruition of the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as well as the shining fruition of our people who are advancing by rallying firmly around the party and leader with a single will and unity. [applause] [end recording]

The speaker said that although a long period of 42 years has passed since our fatherland was liberated from the yoke of the Japanese imperialists' colonial rule, our fatherland, which was divided by the U.S. imperialists, has yet to achieve reunification and the entire population still suffers from intolerable misery and misfortune because of the division of the country and people. He said that proceeding from a sense of responsibility borne before the fatherland and people and a noble mission for the cause of global peace, our party and the government of the Republic have made every sincere effort possible to create an environment favorable to easing the tension on the Korean peninsula and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country. However, none of our fair and just proposals have come to the fruition they deserve because of the U.S. imperialists' maneuvers for division and war, and peace on the Korean peninsula is endlessly threatened.

Saying that the state of military confrontation which is becoming more aggravated with the passage of time on the Korean peninsula can be removed only through a complete arms reduction, the speaker mentioned that in a statement issued last 23 July the DPRK Government put forth a new, epochal proposal for realizing a large-scale step-by-step arms reduction with a view toward opening a decisive phase to ease tension and promote peaceful reunification on the Korean peninsula and immediately took a unilateral measure to discharge 100,000 KPA soldiers and send them to the sites of socialist construction before the end of this year.

Noting that the people of the world, supporting and welcoming the peace-loving proposal of the Republic's government for arms reduction, are now calling on the United States, not to mention the South Korean authorities, to respond to it without delay, the speaker continued:

[Begin Kim recording] In response to the unanimous call of the entire Korean people and the progressive people of the world, the U.S. imperialist aggressors should take their hands of aggression and intervention off Korea, stop pursuing the criminal policy of two Koreas, and leave South Korea without delay, taking along the U.S. forces occupying South Korea and the nuclear weapons. The Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique should abandon its vicious intrigue designed to patch up matters by using empty words while having no intention of putting them into practice, give up the plot to prolong its stay in dictatorial power, and step down from power in response to the strong call of the South Korean people.

Our people's just struggle to remove the danger of nuclear war and ensure peace on the Korean peninsula and reunify the fatherland by peaceful means is now eliciting positive support and sympathy among the fraternal socialist countries and the peace-loving peoples of various countries.

The Soviet party and government fully support the positive and constructive proposals our party and the Republic's Government have put forward in succession with a view toward removing the tension that prevails on the Korean peninsula and peacefully solving the question of Korea's reunification and insist that our proposal for withdrawing U.S. nuclear weapons -- the basic obstacles to Korea's reunification -- from South Korea and for turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone be realized without fail.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend heartfelt gratitude to the CPSU and the Soviet Government and people who helped our people's cause of liberation of the fatherland with blood and lent active support to and solidarity with our people's just cause for socialist construction and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, not only during the arduous period of the fatherland liberation war and in the postwar period of rehabilitation, but also today. [applause]

Today the Soviet people, under the leadership of the CPSU led by the respected Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, are struggling to perfect socialism in all aspects according to the program adopted at the 27th CPSU Congress.

Our people genuinely rejoice over and warmly hail the achievements being realized by the Soviet people. [applause]

Our party and the government of our Republic note with high estimation that the CPSU and the Soviet Government put forth many constructive peace proposals and initiatives with the aim of guaranteeing global peace and the security of mankind, including the proposal to ban nuclear testing, realize nuclear disarmament, prevent the militarization of outer space, and completely scrap nuclear and chemical weapons by the end of this century, and have striven for their realization. We express our full support for and firm solidarity with them. [applause]

We wholeheartedly wish the fraternal Soviet people still greater success in their struggle for socialist and communist construction and in their struggle to defend global peace and security against the imperialists' policy of aggression and war by uniting firmly around the CPSU. [applause]

Korea and the Soviet Union are close neighbors who are linked to each other across a river. For a long time, the Korean and Soviet people have fought shoulder to shoulder in the common struggle against the imperialist aggressors under the banner of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism; have forged the indomitable friendly ties as class brothers and revolutionary comrades-in-arms; and have, without interruption, consolidated and developed those ties in a way that corresponds to the revolutionary cause of the two countries and the all-embracing interests of the socialist forces.

The Korean-Soviet friendship, which grew from deep historical roots and has been consolidated into a relationship of nation-to-nation alliance through the Korean-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance, is now being further strengthened and highly developed in all fields, including politics, the economy, and culture.

The historic meeting and talks last October between the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and respected Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev were an epochal event of particular importance in more fully expanding and developing the traditional Korean-Soviet relations that have entered a new stage of development. [applause]

Our people will advance in the future, as in the past, hand in hand with the fraternal Soviet people on the single road of the common struggle against imperialism and for the victory of the cause of peace and the socialist and communist cause, and will make efforts to develop the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries.

Today our people face the heavy but honorable task of reunifying the divided fatherland and consummating the revolutionary cause under the slogan of imbuing society with the

chuche idea. We should firmly cement the unity and cohesion of our revolutionary ranks, which are rallied firmly around the party and leader, by vigorously staging the three revolutions -- ideological, technical, and cultural -- under the banner of the great chuche idea and endlessly strengthen and develop the might of our country's socialist system and the might of the Republic without interruption while effecting new upsurges on all fronts of socialist construction.

With positive support and encouragement from the progressive people of the world, and with the united strength of the entire population in the country, our people will achieve, without fail, the historic cause of national reunification after crushing maneuvers by the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys to provoke war and perpetuate the division. They will also continue to tenaciously struggle to build a new, peaceful, and free world devoid of aggression, war, exploitation, and repression in unity with all the progressive forces in the world. [applause]

Our revolutionary cause is just and our people have a bright, shining future. Because of the wise leadership by the party and leader and because of the strong (?chuche) of the revolution -- a rock-firm unity of a living body in which the leader, the party, and the popular masses share the same fate -- our people will always emerge victorious.

Let us all vigorously advance struggling to hasten the complete victory of socialism and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country by rallying firmly around the party Central Committee led by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song. [applause]

Long live the great leader of our party and people Comrade Kim Il-song! [applause]

Long live the glorious WPK, the organizer and encourager of all victories! [applause]

Long live the 42d anniversary of the fatherland liberation war! [applause]

Long live the indomitably fraternal friendship and unity between the Korean and Soviet peoples! [applause] [end recording]

Acting Soviet Charge's Remarks

SK180315 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1130 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Speech by Boris Morozov, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Soviet Embassy in Pyongyang, at a meeting to mark the 42d anniversary of the national liberation held at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on 14 August; introduction by announcer and speech in Korean -- recorded]

[Text] Speaking at the meeting to mark the 42d anniversary of the national liberation and saying that the historic liberation day of 15 August has a special place in the history of Soviet-Korean relations, [Soviet] Charge D'affaires Ad Interim Boris Morozov stated that 15 August 1945 is cherished forever as the symbolic day of invincible militant friendship and internationalist solidarity in the struggle against the imperialist aggressors.

[Begin Boris Morozov recording] Over the past 42 years, under the leadership of Comrade Kim Il-song and under the guidance of the WPK -- their militant vanguard -- the working class of Korea, its cooperative farmers, and working intellectuals, through their devoted labor, have turned the northern half of Korea into a socialist state with dependable economic and defense potential, highly developed science and culture, and high international authority. [applause]

The victory the Korean people won in the fatherland liberation war, during which the Soviet Union, along with other socialist countries, supported People's Korea and its Army by all means, made the workers, who had worked out a plan to build a socialist Korea, become self-conscious and displayed the united might of the fraternal countries.

What has served as clear evidence of the (?determination) of the people of the two countries to pool their strength in the struggle for socialist construction and against the aggressive (?maneuvers) of the imperialist reactionaries and to make due contribution to easing tension in the Far East is the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance concluded between the USSR and the DPRK in July 1961. [applause]

Since the conclusion of this basic document of Soviet-Korean relations, those relations have displayed the endless potential of equal and reciprocal cooperation between the socialist countries based on the firm principle of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. (?The Soviet-Korean Treaty) has served as a nucleus for our multisided relations and the credible bedrock of the political (?solidarity) and cooperation between the CPSU and the WPK and between the Soviet Union and the DPRK. It completely holds well as a credible means to guarantee peace and security in the Far East and in the Asian region as a whole.

Contacts between state leaders of the two countries play a basic role in strengthening and developing our cooperation. The encounters and talks between the Soviet and Korean leaders during the visits to the Soviet Union in 1984 and 1986 by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and president of the DPRK, have borne firm proof of each other's desire to perfect and enrich cooperation, expand the exchange of experiences in socialist construction, and pool strength in the struggle to oppose the so-called Star Wars plan of the imperialists, improve the situation in the Asian and Pacific region, and prevent nuclear holocaust. [applause]

We note with great satisfaction that cooperation between our two parties, two states, and two peoples becomes even more important and profitable each year.

Our country highly assesses the active support of fraternal Korea for the program of CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to eliminate nuclear and chemical weapons completely, for the Soviet stand toward the questions of arms reduction and the withdrawal of intermediate-range nuclear missiles and operational and tactical missiles from Europe, and for other Soviet initiatives to improve the political situation around the globe.

(?Under the present circumstances), strengthening our cooperation is even more important to guarantee security in the Asian and Pacific region. The DPRK, with great interest, has accepted the Vladivostok statement issued a year ago to guarantee peace and security in the Asian and Pacific region. This is firm proof of our friends' sincere interest in preserving and solidifying peace in this region.

The (?new comprehensive peace proposals) put forth in the answers of CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to the questions of the Indonesian paper MERDEKA were a development of the Vladivostok initiative. The Soviet Government, expressing its willingness to completely withdraw all intermediate-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles around Asia, also considers the interests of Asian countries in completely liquidating nuclear missiles in Asia, as well as Europe.

Realizing these Soviet proposals is possible only through active participation by all countries in this region, the socialist countries in particular. In this connection, I emphasize the (?even stronger) positivity of the DPRK in the struggle for peace and security. Its voice is being heard even more weightily and authoritatively in the international community.

A series of initiatives the DPRK has recently put forth to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free peace zone and develop a wide-ranging peaceful dialogue between the North and the South of Korea are an important contribution to seeking a policy to settle the question of the Asian and Pacific region. [applause] The proposals put forth in the statement of the DPRK Government on 23 July this year fully agree with the Soviet (?desire) to improve the situation in this region. The Soviet Union expresses full solidarity with the proposals set forth in the statement. [applause]

Also, it cannot but welcome the DPRK decision to unilaterally reduce the KPA by 100,000 by the end of 1987. [KCNA in English at 0854 GMT on 15 August, in a report on Morozov's remarks at the Pyongyang meeting marking the 42d anniversary of liberation, renders this section as follows: "The Soviet Union expresses full solidarity for the proposal set forth in the 23 July statement of the DPRK that the armed forces in the North and the South of Korea be cut stage by stage, armed forces respectively under 100,000 men be kept from 1992 and, accordingly, the United States withdraw all its forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea."]

Comrades, the people of our two countries observe the 42d anniversary of the Korean liberation at a significant period. For the Soviet people, 1987 is the year when the CPSU Central Committee January and June Plenums adopted a truly (?programmatic) decision to (?reorganize all areas of Soviet society). (?All events) in our country are also direct products of the cause of the Great October Revolution, the 70th anniversary of which will be observed by the Soviet people this year. At present, our prime goal is to fully display the potential of socialism and provide all the conditions for our vigorous advance in the future. We know our goal is pretty much the same as the tasks put forth for the Korean people by the Sixth WPK Congress and by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and president of the DPRK, in his political speech at the First Session of the Eighth SPA of the DPRK.

Dear friends, we wish you great new success in your devoted labor in carrying out socialist construction and accomplishing the tasks of the Third 7-Year People's Economic Development Plan and in the struggle to reunify your fatherland peacefully and democratically. [applause]

Long live the 42d anniversary of the Korean liberation from Japanese colonial rule! [applause] Long live the invincible friendship and unity between the Soviet and Korean people! [applause] [end recording]

O KUK-YOL LEADS MILITARY DELEGATION TO PRC

SK171031 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1026 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] Pyongyang August 17 (KCNA) -- A government military delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea headed by O Kuk-yol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, left here Monday to visit the People's Republic of China. It was seen off at the airport by KPA General Kim Kwang-chin, Colonel Generals Yi Pyong-uk and Cho Myong-nok and Senior Vice Admiral Kim Il-chol and Zhang Tingyen, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Chinese Embassy in Pyongyang.

MINISTERS HOLD TALKS AS LABOR DISPUTES CONTINUE

Further on Hyundai Rally

SK171153 Seoul YONHAP in English 1147 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 17 (YONHAP) -- The Hyundai business group Monday suspended operations indefinitely at six of its plants in Ulsan, a major industrial city on the southeastern coast, due to the protracted labor strikes, touching off a new wave of protests of workers demanding that the factories be opened immediately.

The six companies are Hyundai Heavy Industries, Hyundai Engine and Machinery, Hyundai Electrical Engineering, Hyundai Wood Industries, Hyundai Mipo Dockyard and Hyundai Precision and Industry. Another major Hyundai company, Hyundai Motor Co., has been closed since last week.

The suspension decision was made by executives of the companies in a conference room of Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. Sunday afternoon. It was designed to block what the conglomerate called an illegal labor alliance among the six Hyundai affiliates.

The suspension affects not only the estimated 62,000 workers of the seven Hyundai companies but also some 4,200 other factories that provide components to the Hyundai affiliates, shaking the economy in Ulsan to its foundation.

The management said the plants had to be closed to prevent production facilities from being damaged by illegal rallies, to protect the majority of workers from violence and to prevent social unrest arising from joint rallies by workers.

Meanwhile, about 20,000 workers of the six Hyundai companies staged a violent rally on the compound of the Hyundai Heavy Industries Monday in protest against the unilateral decision to close their workplaces indefinitely.

In clashes with riot police during the day, at least 16 of the ralliers who tried to take to the downtown streets, were injured. The workers ended the rallies around 3 p.m. with a decision that they will resume rallies Tuesday.

Hyundai Begins Negotiations

SK180107 Seoul YONHAP in English 0059 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Excerpts] Seoul, Aug. 19 (YONHAP) -- Six Hyundai group companies which suspended operations Monday have begun negotiations with workers on a company-by-company basis.

The management of the business conglomerate has refused the workers' call for negotiations between the group and a joint negotiating team of workers from Hyundai's 17 affiliate firms. Hyundai management argued that the joint negotiating team does not lawfully represent the Hyundai workers.

The company-by-company negotiations resulted following the government's positive mediation efforts which strongly urged both management and workers to negotiate. Labor Minister Yi Hon-ki urged on Monday afternoon that the management and labor unions of the Hyundai companies settle their disputes at an early date.

Chong Chu-yong, founder and honorary chairman of the Hyundai group, empowered individual company presidents with full rights to negotiate with their respective firms' workers Monday afternoon paving the way for the individual company negotiations. If the negotiations go smoothly, the disputes affecting the Hyundai companies are expected to slacken in intensity, observers said. [passage omitted]

Disputes in other large companies, including Samsung Heavy Ind. Co., have been settled and those in mining and transportation industries are about to be resolved while fresh disputes flared up in 124 companies. Operations resumed in 30 of the 33 coal mines where disputes had broken out while the operations of 160 out of 326 dispute-ridden transportation companies were normalized Monday. As of Monday, 305 companies were affected by ongoing labor disputes according to police estimates.

Lotte Hotel Employees Strike

SK180501 Seoul YONHAP in English 0454 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 18 (YONHAP) -- About 500 employees of the Hotel Lotte here, asking for a wage increase, went on strike Tuesday, paralyzing the hotel's normal flow of business.

With the labor dispute, the 16th Pacific science congress, which is scheduled to be held at the hotel for 10 days beginning Thursday, could face cancellation. About 1,200 scholars from some 70 countries are expected to participate in the congress.

The dispute began Monday as some off-duty employees demanded pay raises and better working conditions, and developed into a strike Tuesday as more than 500 employees, including those on duty, joined the group action. Negotiations between the management and employees ruptured Monday night when management rejected the workers' demands, especially for a pay raise.

Because of the strike, Lotte Hotel is not receiving guests.

Ministers Discuss Disputes

SK180752 Seoul YONHAP in English 0745 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 18 (YONHAP) -- Chong In-yong, deputy prime minister and economic planning minister, said Tuesday that Korea's economy would be dealt a blow if the suspended and reduced operations at many companies caused by labor disputes became protracted and escalated further and if the average wages of workers rose by an additional five to six percentage points.

In a meeting discussing the ongoing labor disputes with President Chon Tu-hwan presiding, Chong reported that if the labor disputes could be resolved at present and if the increases in wages go no higher than an additional two to three percentage points compared with 10 percentage points in the first half of this year, the nation's economy could enjoy an average 11 percent growth rate this year while economic stabilization would not be harmed.

The deputy prime minister predicted that if the South Korean economy suffered from prolonged labor disputes and continued wage increases, the growth rate in the latter half of this year would fall sharply to around 5-6 percent, the number of unemployed would double, and the international balance of payments would go into the red, shaking the basic trend of stabilization. He said that the government would not allow increases in public utility charges and other service charges to settle the disputes.

The government also decided in principle that an all-out strike by the national bus drivers union, scheduled for Saturday, should be resolved beforehand through negotiations at each bus company. The government planned to form a task force involving related ministry officials to study ways of resolving the structural problems facing transportation companies. Sources at the Economic Planning Board said that the government was considering a 10 won (one U.S. dollar is worth about 810 won) increase in the intra-city bus fare.

To reduce the adverse effects caused by labor disputes, including commodity price increases and the failure to achieve production goals, the deputy prime minister said that the government will work out several measures, including urgent imports of raw materials and parts to make up for shortages, the diversion of raw materials intended for export to domestic use, and the deferment of tariff collections.

Meanwhile, Yi Hon-ki, labor affairs minister, said in the meeting that the ministry will refrain from hasty intervention and will encourage labor and management to resolve their differences voluntarily, but that it will block strikes hampering national security and the people's way of life, exercising administrative power in instances of demonstrations outside company boundaries, arson, destruction of factory facilities and incidents involving deaths and injuries of individuals. Auto, shipbuilding, electronics, footwear, and transportation firms as well as coal mines had suspended operations due to severe labor-management disputes, but some companies have begun to resume normal operations on a gradual basis, the labor minister said. According to the tally compiled by the Labor Ministry, a total of 1,026 labor disputes broke out this year as of August 17, an increase of 830 over the same period of last year (194 cases). Some 900 disputes occurred after the democratization package announced on June 29 by then chairman of the ruling party (now party president) No Tae-u, while 506 have been settled and 394 disputes are ongoing.

Chon Suggests Three Principles

SK180420 Seoul YONHAP in English 0355 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 18 (YONHAP) -- South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan said Tuesday that all labor-management disputes should be settled peacefully through negotiations between the parties concerned without outside intervention.

Presiding over a meeting of labor-related ministers at the presidential residence, Chongwadae, Chon suggested three principles for the settlement of labor disputes.

The disputes should be settled voluntarily through labor-management consultations they should be settled peacefully in accordance with law and order and, labor and management should prevent their disputes from being instigated or intensified by third parties, in particular by impure elements outside the company, or from being used politically, Chon said in describing his three principles. [sentence as received] The remarks were Chon's first official comments on the labor disputes since the disputes began to sweep the country late last month.

Chon directed the government to determine the reality and causes of the labor disputes and serve as an impartial arbitrator. He also instructed relevant ministries to support the positive settlement of disputes by strengthening welfare policies for laborers and amending various labor laws, regulations and systems.

Chon directed the Labor Ministry to establish medium- and long-term labor policies and to strictly punish those involved in disturbances and violence carried out under the name of labor disputes. He said that the demands of laborers should be accepted in principle but there should be a definite limitation in the content of the demands and the ways for promoting them. He also said that labor and management have a complementary relationship. No matter how just and reasonable their (laborers') demands are, it would be difficult to achieve their goals if they result in the destruction of public order and damage the stability of the people's way of life, Chon said.

Chon said that there are signs of instigation by impure elements in some disputes although most disputes are judged to have stemmed from internal problems.

Chon said that executives of business firms should attempt more dialogue and compromise with laborers while appealing to workers to seek methods for compromise while keeping the factories running.

KOREA HERALD Editorial

SK180123 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 18 Aug 87 p 4

[Editorial: "Threat to Economic Stability"]

[Text] Nationwide labor disputes are already having a considerably negative impact on our economic performance. According to findings released yesterday by the government's Economic Planning Board, overall inflationary pressures are mounting, due to the labor unrest, on such basic commodities as soap, dairy goods, briquets and fishery products. Also affected are construction and automotive parts industries.

Thus, the labor unrest has already exacerbated existing inflationary pressures such as recent price increases of oil and raw materials on overseas markets and increased money supplies due to enormous relief funds for flood victims. All of these factors, then, certainly point to the fact that the nation's stable economy will seriously be threatened, unless early measures are implemented to head off inflationary trends.

Neither does the analysis by the Korea Development Institute, the government's economic think-tank, offer more comforting prospects than the EPB finding. As a probable consequence of the labor unrest, the KDI predicts higher unemployment than originally expected this year, below 3.4 percent. During the remainder of this year, the KDI predicts, unemployment will reach at least 3.8 percent, or 4.9 percent at worst, but it may go as high as 5.5 percent next year.

Now, these cold statistics call us to re-examine the economic wisdom of prolonged strikes. The effect of unemployment falls first on workers, then on management. While labor deserves higher wages, any undue demands could produce side effects nullifying their adjusted increase. Higher wages can easily stimulate higher commodity prices as production costs go up, hitting low wage earners.

Both labor and management, therefore, must exercise mutual restraints so that wage increases will minimally be reflected in overall commodity prices. Several ways may be suggested here for the purpose.

First, management should not shift the burden of wage increases to consumers by raising the prices of products. Instead, the higher overheads must be met out of profits, a lower adjustment of which may then be inevitable. Nor should the wage increase be set so high as to bleed firms.

By far the most desirable means is to increase productivity in order to reduce the cost of production, which calls for coordinated efforts by both labor and management.

In addition, possibilities of lowering interest rates and taxes may be studied for businesses to lessen the burdens of wage increases. But, they have to be cautiously explored. Lower interest rates and taxes may have adverse effects on saving incentives and equitable distribution of incomes, both of which are also essential for the country's economic prosperity and justice. Whatever policies or measures we may implement, the overriding consideration must be the public interest, which does not discriminate between labor and management.

DISPUTES VIEWED AS JEOPARDIZING STABILITY, SECURITY

SK180111 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 18 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] Minister of Culture and Information Yi Ung-hui yesterday said social disputes are endangering the base of stability and economic progress.

Yi said conflicts have expanded to all fields of society because of "hasty demands" for the fulfillment of desires since the government's democratization measures.

The minister, who also serves as official government spokesman, made the remarks in a statement announcing the start of the six-day Ulchi defense exercise this year.

In the statement, Yi pointed out that continuous efforts are being made by the North Korean Communists to thwart the Seoul Olympics next year.

"Thus, in order to prevent another war in this land and to successfully accomplish the Olympic Games, people are asked to be always conscious of national security," he said.

DJP SEEKING WAY TO RELEASE 'RADICAL' LEFTISTS

SK172345 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 18 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] Leaders of radical leftist groups exempt from the release of political prisoners last month are likely to be freed "as soon as possible" if they show sincere repentance. The Democratic Justice Party decided yesterday to "positively" consider ways of releasing them, in a regular meeting of the Central Executive Council as part of follow-up measures of president No Tae-u's June 29 democratization plans. Chief policy-maker Rep. Nam Chae-hui reported that 753 prisoners have been released and 2,335 were given amnesty, leaving only key members of radical leftist organizations and violent (anti-government) activists, including arsonists, in prison. "The DJP will positively consider seeking their release if they sincerely repent and join in the democratic march", he said. It was a positive change in the position of the government and the DJP which have asserted that there are no political prisoners left in prison following the massive release and amnesty on July 9-10.

A bi-party human rights talk between the DJP and the main opposition Reunification Democratic Party was pronounced to be failure last week due to the consistent stand of the ruling party.

The council, the DJP's highest policymaking body, also proposed the formation of local assemblies at all cities, counties and wards of metropolitan cities throughout the nation by May next year. Nullifying an initial government plan to introduce local autonomy systems at 24 districts by next February in "model cases," the party said it will be better to set up local assemblies at all units after presidential and general elections. When to organize larger assemblies for nine provinces and five special cities will be decided on later.

The DJP said it would "positively" accept opposition ideas in dealing with the revision of the Presidential Election Law. "We will also take a flexible attitude in inter-party negotiations on constitutional amendment if opposition parties put forward reasonable proposals for national development," said spokesman Yi Min-sop, briefing on the outcome of the council meeting. Besides them, the 11-point follow-up measures of the eight-point No proposal are also concerned with improvement of basic civil rights, freedom of the press, self-administration of universities, educational autonomy and harmony in labor-management relations. They also guarantee free activities of political parties, promotion of self-determination in all social sectors and eradication of social irregularities. For these goals, the ruling party will move to overhaul eight laws concerning human rights at the National Assembly regular session to open on Sept. 20. They include the Law on Assembly and Demonstrations, the Law Concerning the Execution of Police Duties, the Criminal Procedures Law, the Social Protection Law and the Law Concerning the Execution of Criminal Sentences. According to the DJP plans, presidents and deans of state-run universities will be elected by the President at the recommendation of "organizations which will reflect the will of faculty." The rights to appoint professors will be delegated to presidents and deans, if the DJP idea is adopted by the government. [passage omitted]

COMMUNIST PARTY SAYS GOVERNMENT AT CROSSROADS

BK161325 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese 1200 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Unattributed "article": "Let Us Construct the Party More and More Along the Bolshevik Line and March Forward Together With the People"]

[Text] The Burma Communist Party [BCP], the vanguard party of the working class in Burma, will be 48 years old on 15 August. The party was created because of an historic need amidst storms of anti-imperialist and antifeudal struggles of the people of all nationalities in Burma. The BCP, which was declared illegal by imperialists the instant it entered the political stage in Burma, let it be known publicly at the very first when it announced its basic line that it espousing the eradication of imperialism, feudalism, and bureaucratic capitalism.

After being tempered in the 1300 [Burmese era] Rebellion, the Student Union Movement, the Do Bama [We, the Burmese] Confederation, and many other mass and class movements, the core force which eventually became the vanguard party of the proletariat, also made a pledge to take gradual steps forward (?and wage a protracted struggle). In fact, not long after the party took its first few steps -- 2 years after its inception -- the party encountered World War II. Consequently, it also faced the problem of invasion by the fascist Japanese. Although young in age, the Communist Party was able to overcome the problem of different political beliefs among the people and steer all of them towards the path of the antifascist revolution.

Reactionaries at home and abroad have tried through various means to omit or diminish the role played by the BCP in the history of Burma's struggle against British imperialism and revolution against fascist Japanese. However, history is a factual account of past events, and no dictator or emperor can change or destroy it through dictates. People would come to know the previously stated facts if research by honest historians, who prefer justice, were permitted to be published in a democratic manner.

After the victory of the revolution against the fascist Japanese and following the conclusion of World War II, the Communist Party organized the AFPFL [Antifascist People's Freedom League] and continued its struggle against British imperialism. The demand for absolute independence initiatied by the BCP won the hearts of and influenced the masses. For this very reason, mass uprisings were staged by the workers, peasants, students, clerical workers, public servants, and others under the organization and at the instigation of the party. Is that not a fact?

As the revolutionary tide of the BCP and the masses' demand for absolute independence strengthened, British imperialists -- having not other choice but to grant independence -- handed the country over to the right-wing elements within the AFPFL so that its interests would be safeguarded and protected. When the right-wing AFPFL assumed power after negotiations with the imperialists, it became the bureaucrat capitalist class representing imperialism and feudalism. This ruling reactionary class then resorted to violent means to persecute the Communist Party and the people who were struggling for absolute independence against imperialism, feudalism, and bureaucrat capitalism. Consequently, in order to defend themselves and to realize their goals, the BCP and the people had to wage an armed revolution on 28 March 1948.

Today, the BCP, while flying high the victory banner of the revolutionary war that has lasted almost 40 years -- one of the longest wars in history -- bravely marches ahead. Being able to lead the masses on such an arduous path for a long time does indeed prove the greatness and the brilliance of the BCP. The BCP's ability to survive as the oldest existing party in the political history of Burma, despite the various attempts by the ruling class to eliminate it, is something to be treasured, a gem worthy of world recognition.

During the party's long-lasting existence and its arduous journey, many party cadres and party members laid down their lives for the party and the revolution. On the other hand, during this difficult and protracted test, there have also been people, who, because of their unrealistic outlook of the revolution or because of their opportunism, turned their backs on the party and the revolution. Naturally, the party has faced twists and turns and ups and downs in its long and arduous journey. It is true that the party encountered what is similar to being washed under by waves while journeying across stormy seas full of vortices. But whatever the circumstances, and despite its errors and deviations, the party was able to keep its balance to advance further.

The party's policy in dealing with the question of mistakes is to admit one's mistakes openly, to investigate the reasons for the mistake, to analyze the facts and circumstances surrounding the mistake, and to discuss the ways and means to correct the error. And these are the characteristics of a serious party as stated in Lenin's works: "Infantilism of the Left-Wing Within the Communist Movement." It is for this reason that the BCP exists today and enjoys the respect and confidence of the masses.

The absolute truth that is derived from the lessons and experience of the BCP in its 48 years of existence is that a violent revolution is the only mean if the workers, peasants, and the oppressed classes are to seize power in Burma. In its history of armed revolution, or to be exact, during the rule of the Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP]-military government, the BCP negotiated twice with the enemy to end the civil war and to build peace in the country. But, the wicked and cunning enemy unilaterally abrogated the talks on both occasions. For this reason, it is very evident that the Burmese people will never be able to obtain power through peaceful means. But, giving due consideration to all aspects of the interests of all nationalities, the BCP has continued to uphold the banners of internal peace, democracy, and national unity.

Today, the prevailing conditions at home and abroad greatly favor the revolutionary people. The BSPP military clique is economically bankrupt as well as politically isolated at home and abroad. While there is greater unity among the revolutionary armed forces of the people of all nationalities, disunity has become widespread within the mercenary troops. While an explosive and uneasy situation prevails among the people of all strata because of the difficult food, clothing, and shelter conditions, reports circulating go so far as to suggest that about 200 low-ranking officers, noncommissioned officers, and privates have to be detained by the military government.

Under such a bad situation, the military clique has resorted to the following means: economically, it is endeavoring to include Burma in the list of world's poorest countries; and politically, it has stepped up its practice of fascism in its own BSPP way. Hoping for an escape from the present difficulties, the military tries to rely more on imperialism of all kinds abroad while stepping up the oppression of the people at home. Whatever its attempts, the military clique cannot avoid its downfall as this is dictated by history. Today, the military clique is at a crossroads, cautiously thinking if it should and in which way change its economic, foreign affairs, and diplomatic policies. Political observers, both at home and abroad, who understand this are watching carefully. Under such a situation, while politically (?keeping a clear mind), the Communist Party, the revolutionary armed forces, and the people must build up and strengthen their forces.

While relying on the people on one hand, efforts must also be made to make the party even more Bolshevik so that it can be prepared for the wicked and cunning ploys that the enemy will come up with in the future. To keep the party under democratic centralism, it must be built up into a party that is completely selfless and that is united politically, ideologically, organizationally, and in a method of work.

In honor of the 48th founding anniversary of the party, let all party members make a pledge as well as endeavor to build up the party as stated earlier. At the same time, let us welcome and commemorate the party's anniversary by pledging to keep the armed struggle as the main form of struggle and correctly integrating it with other appropriate forms of struggle and carrying out the armed revolution through to the end!

ARMED FORCES RAID, CAPTURE KACHIN REBEL BASES

BK141447 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Armed forces personnel belonging to units and tactical operations under the Northern Military Command, together with the local populace, are continuing their offensive against bases of the subversive Kachin insurgents.

On 23 July, armed forces columns simultaneously mounted attacks on the Sama camp, a center for the enemy's communications lines, and on the (Ya Lu Baung) camp, headquarters of the 751st Battalion, and captured both camps.

The armed forces columns also succeeded in capturing the Hkaibang camp, headquarters of the insurgent 1st Battalion, on 24 July; the (Loiyang Hai) camp, headquarters of the insurgent 3d Brigade, on 27 July; and the Loije camp, key smuggling center of the insurgent 3d Brigade, on 30 July.

In these battles, 13 soldiers from the people's armed forces laid down their lives for the country while 20 others were wounded.

Twenty-four bodies of Kachin insurgents were captured, while one surrendered. A total of 55 assorted weapons and a large quantity of mines and ammunition were also captured by the people's armed forces. The armed forces, together with the people, are continuing their offensives against the Kachin insurgents, now fleeing in disarray. From the documents captured at the battlefield and according to the confessions of those who had surrendered, it was learned that while Kachin insurgent leaders further their self-interests through blackmarketeering and drug trafficking, the rank and filers have become demoralized. It was also learned that several rank and filers were executed on charges of negligence for the loss of bases.

PRESIDENT SIGNS PROTOCOL TO NONPROLIFERATION PACT

BK171158 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1114 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK August 17 -- Desiring to make a concrete contribution to the process of nuclear disarmament and to strengthening the world security, the People's Republic of Kampuchea decided on August 10, 1987 to adhere to the treaty of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

This was announced in a communique released here today by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, stating clearly that State Council President Heng Samrin has signed the adhesion act.

Kampuchean Foreign Minister Kong Korm's letter to officially confirm Kampuchea's important decision will be sent to his Soviet counterpart E.A. Shevardnadze by the Kampuchean Embassy in Moscow.

The signing ceremony of the protocol on handing over that well-established note to the Soviet Government, one of the trustees of the treaty, will be organized in Moscow soon, added the communique.

INDUSTRIAL, SUBSIDIARY FOOD CROPS REPORTED

BK081255 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1123 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK August 8 -- by the end of July, peasants across the country had planted 62,344 ha of subsidiary food crops, achieving 50.5 percent of the plan for this cropping season. In July alone, 49,095 ha were cultivated with such crops. The cultivation of red corn increased by 2,211 ha, cassava by 249 ha, vegetables by 374 ha and green bean by 1,567 ha as compared with the same period last year.

In the same period, they also covered 22,722 ha with industrial plants, including 21,676 ha done in July alone. The planted area represents 37.58 percent of the target. The area under sugar cane and jute surpassed the last year's by 619 ha and 936 ha respectively.

CAMBODIAN RESISTANCE LEADER VISITS REFUGEE CAMPS

BK170722 Hong Kong AFP in English 0622 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] Bangkok, Aug 17 (AFP) -- Cambodian resistance leader Son Sann started Monday a five-day visit of Cambodian refugees and resistance followers at the largest settlement along Thailand's border with his Vietnamese-occupied homeland.

Sources in Thailand's eastern border town of Aranyaprathet, 250 kilometers (155 miles) from here, said Mr Son Sann was touring the nearby Site 2 refugee camp which shelters over 150,000 Cambodian civilians.

Site 2 is one of eight camps housing over 250,000 Cambodian "displaced persons" denied refugee status and the right to resettle abroad who wait along the border pending repatriation.

The camp is run by Mr Son Sann's nationalist Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), one of three factions making up the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK).

The other two factions in the CGDK are the pro-Chinese Khmer Rouge and the loyalists of former Cambodian monarch Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

The KPNLF's guerrilla force inside Cambodia has dwindled from some 12,000 fighters to less than 2,000, due to an internal leadership feud over the last two years.

Mr Son Sann has been barred from visiting his followers along the border for most of this period and has resided abroad.

He arrived here from Paris last Wednesday for talks with Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila and Thai army commander-in-chief General Chawalit Yongchaiyut.

He will this week meet with dissident KPNLF military commanders in order to restore unity within his movement, seen as crucial for its credibility in the light of the latest developments for peace talks in Cambodia, and his planned meeting with Prince Sihanouk and Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan in Beijing later this month.

They are to discuss a newly-issued call for an informal meeting with representatives of Hanoi's client regime in Phnom Penh at a "cocktail party" in Indonesia, which is to be immediately followed by talks with Vietnam.

Mr Son Sann was due to return here Friday and leave for China on August 29 before going to New York to attend the annual General Assembly of the United Nations.

VODK REVIEWS JULY MILITARY SITUATION, DESERTIONS

BK090252 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Station commentary: "Cambodian Soldiers Who Have Been Forced To Serve the Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors Continue To Mutiny and Desert in Groups and Units"]

[Text] Since invading and occupying Cambodia, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have been actively implementing a policy to force Cambodians to serve in the army throughout the country. They have attempted to set up a puppet army to fight the war on behalf of the Vietnamese forces to exterminate the Cambodia race and to dupe the world and cover up their act of aggression in Cambodia. In this recruitment process, the Vietnamese have used both soft and hard sell approaches. They use deceitful sweet-talk and also send their soldiers to round up our people and youths in villages, along the roads, and in townships and marketplaces and force them to become soldiers.

Once drafted, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors send our compatriots to all kinds of indoctrination and ideological courses so that they are willing to serve the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia. Some have also been sent to Vietnam and the Soviet Union for education to be used as a core group or commanders in units of the puppet army.

However, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have been unable to indoctrinate Cambodians to serve their war of aggression and race extermination. In the past more than 8 years, Cambodian soldiers who have been forced to serve the Vietnamese have successively deserted for home and joined the Democratic Kampuchean national army in groups and units like water gushing through a collapsed dam. Many units, including commanding officers and their subordinates, have joined the DK national army with all the weapons provided by the Vietnamese enemy.

In July, many hundreds more Cambodian soldiers and compatriots deserted the Vietnamese enemy and joined the DK national army or fled the country. On 22 July, 19 Cambodian soldiers, including a battalion commander, 2 company commanders, a platoon leader, and a battalion medic from the 92d Division stationed at Hills 715 and 482 on Pailin battlefield, defected to the DK national army, bringing along all their weapons. On 21 July, 31 Cambodian soldiers belonging to the 1st Battalion, 2d Regiment, 286th Division stationed at Chan Kraham position fled the country; 3 joined the DK national army with their weapons. Between 20 and 30 July, 78 Cambodian soldiers posted to Kompong Thom battlefield successively fled the country, and so on.

Along with desertion and defection, these compatriots have also mutinied against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors' troops everywhere. For example on 2 July, Cambodian soldiers posted at Prey Chas on Kompong Som battlefield ambushed a Vietnamese boat, killing five Vietnamese soldiers and destroying five weapons. On 10 July, Cambodian soldiers and militiamen posted at Toek Thla position mutinied, killing five Vietnamese soldiers and wounding three others. On 5 July, Cambodian soldiers stationed at Prek Chamlang Tuk position mutinied, killing two and wounding one Vietnamese soldiers, and so on.

The desertion, defection, and mutiny of Cambodian soldiers during the past more than 8 years clearly show that the Vietnamese enemy cannot force Cambodians to fight against Cambodians on behalf of the Vietnamese Army to serve Vietnam's war of aggression and race extermination in Cambodia. All Cambodians know the Vietnamese very well. Throughout history, Vietnam has never behaved as an angel to save Cambodia; on the contrary, it has annexed Cambodian territory. For example, the rich land of Kampuchea Kraom has already been annexed by the Vietnamese.

In Cambodia today, apart from over 300,000 Vietnamese soldiers and administrative personnel, Vietnam has also sent more than 700,000 Vietnamese nationals to settle in Cambodia. These Vietnamese nationals have cooperated in implementing the policy to massacre and exterminate the Cambodian race through every means. These are blatant activities to annex Cambodian territory. Vietnam in no way can dupe Cambodians on this.

This is why for the past almost 9 years, Vietnam has been unable to set up a puppet army to fight on its behalf. Even in 1990, or any year, Vietnam will not be able to force Cambodians to fight against Cambodians to serve its war of aggression and race extermination in Cambodia. On the contrary, the movement of Cambodians resisting the Vietnamese aggressors will spread more vigorously until Vietnam can no longer endure it and is forced to leave Cambodia. This is the current Vietnam cannot oppose.

VODK REAFFIRMS CGDK ADHERENCE TO PEACE PROPOSAL

BK180310 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Station commentary: "The CGDK Will Continue To Firmly Adhere to the Eight-Point Peace Proposal on Resolving the Cambodian Problem Politically and to the Resolutions of the Eight UN General Assembly Sessions on the Cambodian Problem"]

[Text] Khian Thirawit, general secretary of the Third International Conference on Cambodia held in Bangkok recently, said that for the time being, the CGDK should stand firmly on its eight-point peace proposal to resolve the Cambodian problem and should not put forward any new proposals. He pointed out that having too many proposals on the table would allow Vietnam to delay while choosing that proposal which best suited it.

Khian Thirawit's opinion is very correct. Since Vietnam committed its aggression against Cambodia, various proposals have been put forth aimed at resolving the Cambodian problem politically, including resolutions of the past eight UN General Assembly sessions. However, Hanoi has rejected them all. The CGDK's eight-point peace proposal, dated 17 March 1986, which the world considers as reasonable and most in Vietnam's favor, was also swiftly and unreasonably rejected by Hanoi. This attitude on the part of Vietnam clearly shows that it is not willing to really resolve the Cambodian problem politically. It still stubbornly sticks to its Indochinese Federation and regional aggressive and expansionist strategy.

Therefore, we completely agree with Khian Thirawit's view. There is no need to put forth any new proposals to resolve the Cambodian problem. We should continue to firmly stick to the CGDK's eight-point peace proposal. Putting forth new proposals will only make Vietnam, which is currently facing serious problems in every field, more conceited and stubborn in its aggression and occupation in Cambodia, thereby further prolonging the reaching of a political solution to the Cambodian problem. Furthermore, the CGDK's eight-point peace proposal has the necessary and correct basis for resolving the Cambodian problem politically. If Hanoi agrees to resolve the Cambodian problem in accordance with this proposal, then this problem will have been resolved with Cambodia and Vietnam becoming peaceful again, and peace and stability returning to Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific region.

Over the past almost 9 years, the Cambodian problem has remained deadlocked not because of a lack of proposals or principles but because of Hanoi's refusal to end its war of aggression in Cambodia by pulling out all its aggressor forces from Cambodia to let the Cambodian people decide their destiny themselves. Therefore, to quickly resolve the Cambodian problem politically, our CGDK should continue to unite and fight more vigorously against the Vietnamese aggressors on the battlefield and in other fields and the international community should continue to apply all-round pressure on Vietnam to make it face increasing difficulties until it can no longer endure them and is forced to resolve the Cambodian problem in accordance with the CGDK's eight-point peace proposal by withdrawing all its aggressor forces from Cambodia to let the Cambodian people decide their destiny themselves without outside interference as prescribed by resolutions of the past eight UN General Assembly sessions. This is the most effective measure to force Vietnam to resolve the Cambodian problem politically.

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS AFTER VISIT TO MALAYSIA

BK140947 Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, who returned home from a 1-day official visit to Malaysia yesterday, said that the president of the CGDK, Prince Sihanouk, would attend the coming UN General Assembly. Prince Sihanouk, however, will not deliver a speech in the session. The minister also said that the effort of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, ASEAN, in solving the Kampuchean problem through the United Nations body had been conducted, and also through the friendly talks with concerned parties.

Touching on the problem of Indonesian illegal immigrants in Malaysia, the minister said that Indonesia is always prepared to have talks with the Malaysian Government on the matter. He added that if the matter continued to get serious attention, there was a chance of it to be settled soon.

The minister, on the occasion, also stated that Indonesia had agreed to contribute to the South-South Commission Fund initiated by Malaysia. But the amount would be decided later.

MALAYSIAN MILITARY OFFICIAL ON JOINT EXERCISES

BK161544 Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Joint military exercises between Indonesia and Malaysia need to be carried out regularly in order to make the military personnel of the two armies more familiarized. This was disclosed by visiting Malaysian deputy chief of staff of the Malaysian Army, Lieutenant General Datuk Yaacob bin Zain, in Malang, east Java.

The Malaysian army leader closely observed the Kris Kartika Malaysia-Indonesia joint military exercise in Blitar. He said such an exercise had been jointly carried out by the two countries since 1977, but joint exercises involving troops from the two armies had only been carried out two times, the first in 1979 and the second in 1987, he added.

PASASON LINKS HUMANITARIAN ISSUES WITH MIA TALKS

BK171415 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 17 Aug 87

[PASASON commentary: "International Relations Must Be Based on Respect for Each Other's Independence and Mutual Benefits"; date not given]

[Text] At the recent talks in Vientiane between Lao and U.S. delegations, the two sides reaffirmed their respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity in bilateral relations and agreed on and acknowledged both sides' humanitarian issues. The content of the meeting and talks provides a good basis for relations between Laos and the United States and for the solution of humanitarian issues on the basis of equality and mutual benefits. However, the content of the talks will be useful only when practical deeds are taken.

The Lao people cannot be satisfied with what is only written on paper; they want to see that words are matched by deeds. Despite the fact that Laos is an underdeveloped country, its economic and cultural situation is still unfavorable, and the Lao people suffered severely from the aggressive wars of foreign imperialists, the Lao Government and people have not nourished prejudice toward any country; they have left behind their bitterness and look forward to the future with [word indistinct]. The LPDR Government has clearly outlined its foreign policy -- peace, friendship, and cooperation with all nations on the basis of respect for each other's independence and territorial integrity.

In fact, in the past Laos has never taken any action to violate the independence and sovereignty of other countries. Particularly in the case of the United States, which is on the other side of the globe, Laos has never touched the interests and honor of the U.S. people and their country. Laos has always respected the most fundamental principles of the norm of international relations. The Lao people earnestly hope that all countries will also respect each other's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. The Lao people will follow all actions taken by the U.S. side to see if those actions are in conformity with the promises as mentioned in the joint press release issued in Vientiane between the Lao and U.S. delegations.

In the humanitarian sphere, the Lao Government and people have in the past cooperated with the U.S. Government on many occasions in searching for and excavating the remains of U.S. soldiers missing during the war. Instead of reciprocating the Lao government's sympathy and humanitarian actions; the United States, which caused pain and suffering for the Lao people as well as for the missing U.S. soldiers, has taken advantage of the situation and demanded that the Lao side accede to many of the U.S. demands, while ignoring the death and losses of limbs and property suffered by tens of thousands of Lao people, without giving an appropriate response to the humanitarian issues of the Lao people.

The settlement of humanitarian questions must be done in a spirit of reciprocity. Naturally, the Lao people cannot unilaterally and unlimitedly maintain their humanitarian attitude toward the MIA issue unless the United States takes humanitarian actions toward the Lao people, who are victims of the war, and toward Laos, which is an underdeveloped country. The Lao Government and people greatly sympathize with the families and relatives of the U.S. soldiers missing during the war in Laos. At the same time, the Lao Government and people are concerned with the families of tens of thousands of fallen and handicapped Lao citizens who suffered from the U.S. war of aggression in Laos. Therefore, the Lao people wish to see sincerity on the part of the United States in treating the Lao people in the humanitarian aspect.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSES PREPARATION FOR SEOUL OLYMPICS

BK180451 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0430 GMT 10 Aug 87

[*"Memoir" by (Alounsaak): "Preliminary Meeting for Participation in 24th Summer Olympics Games"*]

[Text] On the morning of 1 August 1987, the Lao National Olympic Committee held a meeting at the meeting hall of the Lao Committee for World Peace and for Solidarity and Friendship With Various Nations. The meeting was held to discuss the sports activities being carried out in Laos in preparation for participating in the 24th Summer Olympics games to be organized in South Korea in 1988. Attending the meeting were representatives of each branch of the Unified Lao Sports Associations as well as editors and correspondents of various journals. At the meeting, Singkapo Sikhotchounlamani, [chairman of Lao Committee for World Peace and for Solidarity and Friendship With Various Nations and chairman of Lao National Olympic Committee] as chairman of the meeting, presented many issues for discussion. The meeting particularly discussed sports activities. Singkapo Sikhotchounlamani also publicized the Council of Ministers Announcement No 477 dated 1 April 1987 on the preparations of athletes for participating in the 24th Olympics games in Seoul in 1988.

The meeting also reviewed both strong and weak points of the sports activities as carried out by the United Sports Association in the first 7 months of 1987. He expressed his appreciation that the committees at all levels have profoundly understood the guidelines as set forth by the party and state and that all committee members were quick to change from the old to the new line of thinking. The change was reflected in actual practice by an inspection demonstrating that everyone has taken the initiative in performing his sports duty to help Laos achieve a new, development shape and a firm step in sports. He also presented a concrete plan for sports organized for the period from May 1987 to the end of 1988. In the plan, emphasis is placed on encouraging and stepping up mass sports movements in an atmosphere of revolutionary enthusiasm to welcome various nationally as well as internationally significant, historical days. This is to contribute to the mass movements in implementing political tasks in an atmosphere in which preparations have been made to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution of the USSR, the 12th anniversary of the 2 December national day of the LPDR, the 39th anniversary of the LPA, the 30th anniversary of Socialist Army Solidarity Day on 12 March 1988, the 33d anniversary of the LPRP, and the forthcoming congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Unions Central Committee. It is also preparation for the second national sports games to be held in Savannakhet Province and preparation for Lao athletes to take part in the 24th Summer Olympics games in South Korea in 1988.

The sports movements in Laos have been based on the announcement of the International Sports Federation which provides details on types of sports events to be organized in the 24th Olympics games. The seven types of athletic events selected for Lao athletes to participate in are boxing, track-and-field, shooting, football, basketball, table tennis, and volleyball. At present, all international Olympic organizations have provided ample support and assistance for the Lao National Committee in preparing the athletes. The Lao Olympic Committee has so far received from the International Olympics Organization an amount of \$5,000 in monetary assistance for the Lao athletes, and an additional amount of \$7,500 for use in the project to participate in the 24th Olympics games in Korea. In addition to the major issues raised for discussion by the Lao National Olympic Committee, there remain many other issues that must be settled in making effective preparations to participate in the Olympic games in Korea to bring about good results to the Lao nation and Lao athletes themselves.

In conclusion, all the representatives to the meeting unanimously approved a proposal of the Lao National Olympic Committee for the convening of a consultative meeting to discuss a training plan for Lao athletes to participate in the 24th Olympic games.

ARTICLE MARKS 27TH NATIONAL RADIO ANNIVERSARY

BK160620 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Article by National Radio Staff, dated 13 August; title not given]

[Text] Respected listeners: Today, 13 August, marks the 27th anniversary of the former Pathet Lao Radio or the present National Radio Broadcasting station. During the past 27 years, under the close leadership and guidance of the LPRP Central Committee headed by beloved and respected Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan, the former Pathet Lao Radio, or the present National Radio Broadcasting station, has carried out its tasks and role in mobilizing the masses to engage in a national-democratic revolution and has sharply and promptly fought the enemy, thereby contributing to the common success of the revolution to liberate the country and to the establishment of the LPDR in 1975.

During the past 10 years or more of national defense and socialist construction, the radio has carried out its tasks and role of popularizing the party's policies and line and state plans, thus enabling the masses to profoundly understand and implement them. At the same time, it has reflected activities of the masses in organizing the implementation of the policies, line, and plans and in socioeconomic construction, national defense, and public security as well as in carrying out educational, cultural, public health, and other work. Meanwhile, it has popularized the party's foreign policy of peace, independence, and socialism, contributing to establishing friendly relations with other nations in the world, particularly to building the special solidarity among Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia and solidarity and all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union and other members of the fraternal socialist community. It has promptly countered fact-distorting propaganda campaigns launched by the imperialists, the hegemonists and expansionists, and their reactionary henchmen.

This progress and development of the National Radio are attributable to the contributions made by our listeners and all staff members, both at home and abroad, by sending encouraging commendation and criticism letters and by contributing news reports, poems, radio plays, features, and songs. All this has made it convenient for our correspondents to effectively carry out work. Nevertheless, we are of the opinion that we are still beset with many shortcomings: The contents and form of our programs are still dull; the language we use is still lifeless; announcers' reading habits are not yet attractive; art and literary programs are still weak; new changes in the way of thinking have not been sufficiently reflected; technical aspects have not yet been ensured; and our announcers' voices are not yet articulate and pleasant enough.

We will continue to improve the contents, programming, and our technical base, and we will positively carry out the fourth party congress resolutions in a more extensive and profound manner. Meanwhile, we hope that all listeners and staff members will make more contributions by sending us words of criticism, news reports, poems, plays, features, and songs. We wish to profoundly thank all listeners and staff members and wish you happiness in your tasks.

AQUINO VETOES MINIMUM WAGE HIKE DUE TO OIL PRICES

HK180213 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] President Aquino yesterday [17 August] ruled out an immediate raise in the minimum wage because of the oil price hike. She said the matter has not yet been discussed by the cabinet. Labor unions have been demanding a pay raise to help workers cope with the expected price hikes due to the increase in the cost of fuel.

Economic Planning Secretary Solita Monsod has already forecast a raise in inflation due to the fuel price increase. She expects a 5 percent rise in the cost of goods and services.

AQUINO REJECTS OUTRIGHT DEBT REPUDIATION

HK171203 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 15 Aug 87 pp 1, 6

[By staff member Malou Mangahas]

[Text] President Aquino yesterday said a ceiling on debt service or a limit on public funds used to pay foreign loans that Congress may set was one "positive" answer to the country's debt crisis.

She ruled out outright repudiation, however, but vowed to give priority to safeguarding the people's welfare and the economy's growth, over payment of the debts.

In a press conference with Malacanang reporters, Mrs Aquino also affirmed that she had suspended her Executive Order [EO] No 219 dated July 14 that directed Government's assumption of the \$57 million loan to Planters Products Inc [PPI].

No money would be released to pay the PPI loan, contrary to the EO's provision, until after Congress has decided on the subject, she said. The EO had ordered the allotment of P620 million from the National Treasury for the loan.

Re-echoing her lament during Congress' inaugural, the President said she had expected foreign creditors to grant the Philippines "a most-favored nation treatment."

On the contrary, she said the creditors had "forced" Government to assume PPI's loan, at the risk of a protracted delay in the restructuring agreement on the rest of the country's foreign loans.

Mrs Aquino, asked if she was considering repudiation of debts, if on a selective basis, as a policy, answered: "As in the case of the U.S. military bases, I would like to keep my options open."

At the same time, she said she would not sacrifice the economy's growth and the people's welfare just so the debts could be paid.

She stressed that nowhere in her Congress address did she suggest repudiation as a policy, and repeated that Government will honor all its debts.

EO 219 which directed the Department of Agriculture to write off PPI's loan balance to a consortium of 12 foreign banks, was "really unfair."

She said she signed it on recommendation of Finance Secretary Jaime Ongpin, who also did not agree to the exaction.

"But I was left with no choice but to sign the EO," she clarified, recalling the creditors' threat of a long delay in the country's debt restructuring talks.

What happened to the PPI loan was "damage control" response, she said. "I had no choice. If I had, you can bet your life, I will not do so," she added.

On other issues, the President said:

-- She was appealing to the country's foreign creditors "to appreciate what our problems are. The very survival of the Filipino people depends on better terms for the nation's debt restructuring program."

-- She would definitely not run for a second term, contrary to speculations of some politicians that she was eyeing another term for the 1992 presidential elections. Since this day is "a long way off," she said all public officials should concentrate on their work.

-- She had told her Cabinet officials not to give her relatives "special treatment" in the grant of Government contracts. All such transactions should be "transparent," she added.

-- The overtures of Moro National Liberation Front Chairman Nur Misuari for his group and Government to talk peace again was welcome. "I've always believed in giving everybody the benefit of the doubt. Government is always prepared to dialogue with anybody," she said.

-- She would not suspend the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus, or resort to policies other than what are democratic. "In the past, many of our democratic processes were just conveniently ignored ... In the minds of some people, it is much easier to just arrest and detain people. But we have a stable Government now although it may take longer to solve our problems."

-- She pleads "guilty" to Government's erroneous reference to Taiwan as the Republic of China. However, she said she has not herself committed this error, but "just someone in the office of the press secretary."

The issue here was "not one of wanting the relationship of one country over another," she clarified "but I hope we just have to say unanimously mea culpa," she remarked.

-- Members of the Cojuangco family are studying how best to implement agrarian reform in their 6,000 -- hectare sugar estate of Hacienda Luisita.

-- Criticisms against her Cabinet secretaries and "technocrats" also affect her because "they are extensions of myself." However, she said she had counselled her officials that "none of us is perfect, we all have our mistakes. As soon as we realize this, we then have to cooperate with each other."

TRANSPORT COMPANIES ALLOWED TO INCREASE FARES

HK180209 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] The Department of Transportation said it is set to increase passenger fares by 5 centavos for the first 4 km and 2 centavos for every [number indistinct] km. The move was announced by Under Secretary Manuel Domingo yesterday [17 August] as he appealed to the drivers of jeepneys and buses who had gone on strike in protest to the fuel price increases. Domingo said the department will grant the fare hike if the operators and drivers file a motion for their fare boost. He also asked the strikers of public utility vehicles to dialogue with the government on the oil price issue. He said public hearings on the fare hikes will begin immediately if motions for fare increases are made.

Meanwhile, striking operators and drivers [words indistinct], said they will continue their strike today even though the first day of the transport stoppage failed to completely paralyze Metro Manila. The Nagkakaisang Samahan ng mga Tsoper [United Association of Drivers] nationwide said they will continue the strike and they called on their provincial chapters to join in. However, the Alliance of Concerned Transport Organization said they will end their strike today and ply their routes. Yesterday thousands of commuters were stranded due to the strike but many were helped by government and military vehicles fielded to help the stranded riding public. Metro Manila Governor Jejomar Binay said more trucks and vehicles will be fielded today if the strike continues.

The police reported the arrest of 18 drivers trying to harass and force commuters and other drivers to join the strike. Manila Police Chief Brigadier General Alfredo Lim has warned they will take drastic action against violence. On the whole, yesterday's strike, according to acting Capcom [Capital Command] Chief Romeo Zuleuto, was peaceful. [Zulueta recording indistinct]

KIDNAPPERS RELEASE MINDANAO UNIVERSITY HOSTAGES

HK171249 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1230 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] The kidnappers have released the 16 students and professors of the Mindanao State University. According to a report, no ransom was paid. Military troops killed 10 kidnappers who attempted to escape from the military cordon.

NATION: ASEAN COMMUNIQUE 'COUCHE'D IN PHRASEOLOGY

BK170115 Bangkok THE NATION in English 17 Aug 87 p 4

[Editorial: "ASEAN Ministers Stress Participation of Vietnam"]

[Text] Joint communiquees are usually vague and any points made are couched in diplomatic phraseology and the one that was issued by the ASEAN foreign ministers who deliberated for four-and-a-half hours yesterday was not different. However, it is clear from the communique that the meeting, which was called at short notice, succeeded in clearing up any reservations that a member of ASEAN could have had and a consensus was reached.

What strikes us as important in the statement issued by the ASEAN foreign ministers is that Vietnamese participation in the "cocktail party" process should come "immediately" after the four Khmer factions held their information meeting. The statement also welcomed the proposal worked out by ASEAN's interlocutor with Vietnam, Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, during his recent visit to Ho Chi Minh city where he conferred with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach. The statement also called on Vietnam to respond positively to the proposal which will bring together all the Khmer factions in an informal meeting with the participation of Hanoi.

Two points stand out in ASEAN's position on the proposal. First, ASEAN wants to make sure that the meeting among the Kampuchean factions and later on with Vietnamese participation should be the same meeting and not a separate one. Some members had raised the question that if there was no definite timeframe for Vietnamese participation, ASEAN will become a victim of a Vietnamese ploy. As a result, the phrase "at a later stage" which appeared in the Mokhtar-Thach communique was interpreted by ASEAN as "immediately" meaning right after the meeting of Kampucheans with no time gap.

Second, ASEAN reaffirmed its earlier position on the eight-point peace plan which had been worked out in Beijing two years ago by the three members of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea. This will be the basis of the talks to end the nine-year-old Kampuchean conflict.

Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila, as current chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee, will be taking the consensus arrived at yesterday to the leaders in China and Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Pyongyang. Sihanouk has expressed interest in attending the cocktail party but he has not outlined any formula. Although Mokhtar and Thach agreed that there will be no pre-conditions and on an equal footing Sihanouk may not want to meet a representative of the Heng Samrin regime. [sentence as published]

The statement issued yesterday was aimed at pointing out Vietnam's responsibility because it reaffirmed the basic ASEAN policy was that the dispute was between Vietnam and Kampuchea.

USSR'S ENVOY URGES 'EXPLOITING' ASEAN OPPORTUNITY

BK180001 Bangkok THE NATION in English 18 Aug 87 pp 1, 2

[By Sinfra Tansarawut]

[Text] The Soviet Union believes a dialogue between Khmer factions in the Kampuchean conflict is a "step toward the right direction" of seeking a political solution to the problem, a Soviet official expert on Southeast Asia told THE NATION yesterday.

Anatoliy Zaytsev, head of the Foreign Ministry's Southeast Asian Affairs, also said that ASEAN should promptly exploit the "favourable prerogative" for action toward a solution otherwise the existing opportunity may be lost.

He declined to directly comment on the outcome of the meeting of ASEAN foreign ministers on Sunday here, saying he has not yet read the full text of the joint press release issued after the meeting.

But he said the Soviet Union will "meet with understanding" any step put forward by ASEAN and Indochinese countries aimed at establishing in this region a just and long-lasting peace.

Any proposal acceptable for countries directly involved in the Kampuchean conflict will be agreed on by Moscow, he said before his departure for Kuala Lumpur.

The one-day ASEAN meeting ended with an agreement on the Indonesia-initiated proposal for informal talks between the United Nations-recognized Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea and the Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin regime. The press release said the cocktail party meeting must be "followed immediately" by the participation of Vietnam.

"I think the dialogue between all the interested parties will be a step forward on the way to the search of a (political) solution" to the Kampuchean conflict, Zaytsev said.

"The main thing is to begin the dialogue. This is one of the ways to ease the tension which still exists in the region," he said.

"In this sense, we think it (the dialogue between Khmer factions) is a step in the right direction," he said.

Asked whether Vietnam will participate in the proposed cocktail party meeting the way ASEAN wants, Zaytsev did not directly reply, but said he believes Hanoi will carefully study the ASEAN joint press release.

Hanoi has not yet responded to the formula of the proposed informal meeting.

Moscow is the major aid donor of Vietnam which maintains an occupation force of 140,000 troops in Kampuchea since its invasion in December 1978.

Zaytsev said the Soviet Union is already to act according to its capability to continue the effort to facilitate the search for a political solution to the Kampuchean conflict.

ASEAN can rely on Soviet "understanding and support" for the move toward the settlement of the conflict, he said.

But he added: "The Soviet Union cannot act without the efforts by the countries concerned in the (Southeast Asian) region."

He said last Wednesday when he arrived here that Moscow is committed to do what it can to find a settlement of the conflict but its effort should not "replace" ASEAN's initiative.

"The Southeast Asian countries should also seek its own solutions. They should not wait only for a Soviet move," he said.

Moscow has shown its interest in improving relations with ASEAN countries but members in the grouping said the Kampuchean conflict is the main barrier of the improvement. They have urged the Soviets to show their sincerity by finding a settlement.

LAO TROOPS SEIZE DISPUTED BORDER HILL IN PHITSANULOK

BK160114 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] The Army has sent more troops and heavy artillery to the Laotian border in Phitsanulok to repulse Pathet Lao soldiers who have seized a hill they claim is in Laotian territory.

Military sources said villagers were evacuated from Ban Rom Kla in Chat Trakan District on August 8 after some 200 Laotian troops attacked rangers who had been sent to the area following a clash with Pathet Lao troops in May.

Ban Rom Kla is about three kilometres inside Thailand, but the Laotians claim that the highest peak in the area, Phu Soi Dac, which marks the border, is inside Laos.

At least 10 Laotian soldiers were killed and 19 others wounded in the attack on the rangers at Ban Rom Kla, the sources said.

After three hours of fighting, the rangers found the body of a Laotian trooper and a large amount of ammunition.

The rangers withdrew from the base together with villagers following the attack.

The villagers, who were mostly former communist hilltribesmen, were evacuated from the village for security reasons.

Two rangers from the same unit and a Thai villager were killed when the unit clashed with 150-200 Pathet Lao soldiers at the village between May 31 and June 2.

The sources said that a tractor being used by Rung Krachang Partnership Co Ltd in a logging operation nearby was damaged by RPG rockets fired by Laotian troops in the fight.

The Laotian forces also abducted 10 villagers when withdrawing across the border.

They later released three of the villagers and reportedly shot dead another villager who tried to escape. One of the villagers escaped safely.

On June 8, Na Haeo District authorities sent a letter to the headman of Sayaboury's Bo Ten village in Laos asking for the release of the five Thai villagers.

The Laotian headman, Duangchit Phetlangsi, replied a week later that Laotian authorities would release the five on condition that Thai officials accept that Ban Rom Kla is part of Laos.

The sources said that local Thai and Laotian officials disagree over the sovereignty of an 80-square-kolometre area that includes Phu Soi Dao and Ban Rom Kla.

Laos claims the land citing an American map, while Thailand claims the same area citing a French map.

Thai troops in Chat Trakan District have been reinforced following reports that more Patghet Lao troops have been sent to Phu Soi Dao, the sources said.

Situation Returns to Normal

BK180053 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Aug 87 p 2

[Text] The situation along the Thai-Laotian border has returned to normal after Laotian troops were repulsed across the border from Ban Rom Kla in Chat Trakan District of Phitsanulok Province over a week ago, Third Army Region commander Lt Gen Siri Thiwaphan said yesterday.

He said the intrusion by a Laotian military unit and its attack on a ranger base at Ban Rom Kla prompted the Third Army to send reinforcement to the border to bring the situation back to normal. The border now was being routinely patrolled, he said.

Lt Gen Siri said all the intruders had been repulsed from Thai soil, leaving behind two bodies.

He said Laos will be warned not to cross the border into Ban Rom Kla which is part of Thai territory.

The general said Laotians could not just simply claim that the village belonged to them. To make such a claim Laotians need to have a map recognised by both sides. Moreover, any question on border demarcation should be dealt with by the foreign ministries of the two countries, Lt Gen Siri said.

On the ambush that took place recently in Pua District of Nan Province with a subsequent report that it was the work of communist insurgents, Lt Gen Siri said the report was wrong since there were no longer communist insurgents in the area.

He said he suspected that the incident could have generated from a business conflict and that AK 47 rifles used in the ambush could be illegally obtainable in the area.

The Nan governor had ordered police to investigate the incident involved, he added.

BRIEFS

FRG GRANTS DEVELOPMENT AID -- The German Government has made available a 10-million mark grant to the Thai Government for use in extension of village development program aimed at improving the living standards of the Thai people living along the Thai-Cambodian border. Delegations of the two governments met in Chiang Mai recently to discuss details of the project. The German Government also provides 50 million DM, of which 40 million marks will be on loan for a communications project and another 22 million marks as grant within the framework of technical cooperation. The funds will be used mainly for the continuation of ongoing projects in the northeast. A major share will go for the highly successful highlands program. [Summary] [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 11 Aug 87 BK]

TWO DIVISIONS WITHDRAWN FROM THAI-PRK BORDER

BK171358 Hong Kong AFP in English 1336 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] Bangkok, Aug 17 (AFP) -- Hanoi has withdrawn two divisions from the Thai-Cambodian border and sent them to southeast Cambodian provinces bordering Vietnam, a resistance source returned from the border said here Monday.

Some 8,000 Vietnamese troops have been withdrawn to Cambodia's southeastern provinces of Kratie and Kampong Cham in recent weeks, the source at the office of the personal representative of Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk here said.

The two divisions were sent to the Thai-Cambodian border two months ago.

The Vietnamese troops had failed to seal the border and prevent resistance guerrillas from crossing into Cambodia because their movements had been reported to the resistance by the local population and by Phnom Penh government troops, the resistance source said.

He said the withdrawal of the two divisions was consistent with Vietnam's policy of not launching large military operations in Cambodia in the weeks ahead of the annual session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Vietnam has an estimated 140,000 troops in Cambodia to prop up the Heng Samrin regime in Phnom Penh. They face some 50,000 Chinese-armed guerrillas of the U.N.-recognized resistance Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea.

ARMY PAPER CITES U.S. 'GLOBAL SCHEME' TOWARD ASEAN

BK180230 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 9 Aug p 2

[Article by Nguyen Dang Vinh]

[Text] ASEAN, established on 8 August 1967, comprising Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, and Brunei -- which joined this association in 1984 -- has declared its main objectives to be coordinating economic and cultural development and social progress among its members as well as cooperating in the economic, cultural, scientific, technological, and administrative fields. In reality, with the emergence of this organization, Washington attempted to lead it toward a policy of opposing communism and national liberation movements in Asia to fulfill the U.S. global scheme of opposing revolution.

The U.S. imperialists regard Asia and the Pacific as the "eastern front" for opposing socialist countries and note that ASEAN is one of the important parts of this front, an important chain linking U.S. military bases in the Mediterranean with those in the Pacific, and a new military springboard for establishing U.S. outposts.

Implementing its foreign policy toward Southeast Asia, the U.S. imperialists have used their media to scare the ASEAN countries with the "danger from outside infiltration," and "Soviet and Vietnamese expansionism." The U.S. appraisal of the cause of the current complex situation in the region, which sees Vietnam and the Soviet Union as "the cause of all disasters," is being injected into the political, social, and military circles of the ASEAN countries. [paragraph continues]

The fact that the United States is attempting to exert this psychological pressure on these countries is due to Washington's desire to create the most favorable political conditions for quickly fortifying its military presence in the region and conducting its foreign and military policies for its own interests.

Using the network of relations between Northeast and Southeast Asia, U.S. military specialists are formulating plans to escalate the activities of U.S. air and naval forces in Southeast Asia to ensure control of air and sea lanes in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. The United States is also seeking to prolong the presence of the U.S. military at Clark Air Force Base and Subic Navy Base in the Philippines, while trying to expand the use of various military bases in Thailand. The United States and Thailand have agreed in principle to build a huge arms stockpile for use in various campaigns in Southeast Asia by the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force on "special occasions."

To divert ASEAN from its original objectives, the United States has on many occasions proposed establishing a military alliance of the ASEAN countries. For instance, the United States proposed comprehensive cooperation between the naval forces of these nations, the establishment of a unified command to protect various sea transportation routes, and the setting up of a military cooperation system in the region, or in reality, a military alliance. The United States also considered a project for establishing a "rapid deployment force" of the ASEAN countries to carry out its gendarme role. It has forced the ASEAN countries to buy weapons and equipment from the United States and other western nations. Over the past 5 years, the volume of weapons and equipment bought by ASEAN countries from the United States and the NATO bloc increased by 250 percent to total \$3 billion (in 1986 alone, it was \$900 million). The United States has also tried by all means to encourage military cooperation between the ASEAN countries such as bilateral military exercises and exchanges of military information and experience.

However, not all leaders of the ASEAN countries are enthusiastic about these U.S. policies and proposals. Unlike Thailand and Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines have expressed doubts about the so-called "Soviet and Vietnamese threat." The United States has specifically shown its concern over the intention of ASEAN to establish a nuclear weapons-free zone in Southeast Asia. The foreign press has reported that many leaders of the ASEAN countries hold different viewpoints from those of the United States on a number of key issues in Southeast Asia. In reality, the United States has failed in its scheme to turn ASEAN into a military bloc.

Strong trends in the world and the region prove that negotiation, not confrontation, is the best way to solve all the current complex problems. Only by maintaining cooperation, justice, and mutual interest between ASEAN and other Asean nations can we effectively develop peace and stability in the region and oppose coercion and interference by the United States to the internal affairs of the ASEAN countries.

VISITING SOVIET DELEGATION DISCUSSES COOPERATION

OW151521 Hanoi VNA in English 1502 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 15 -- A delegation of the Soviet Ministry of Electronic Industry led by its First Deputy Minister S.V. Ilyushin left here today after a week-long friendship visit. While here, the Soviet guests had working sessions with the General Department of Electronics and Information and discussed plans for bilateral cooperation in scientific and technical research and in the building of material and technical bases for Vietnam's electronic industry.

A memorandum on the sessions was signed by S.V. Ilyushin and Tran Diep, general director of the host department.

Meets With Pham Hung

OW151523 Hanoi VNA in English 1504 GMT 15 Aug 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 15 -- Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Hung received here yesterday the delegation of the Soviet Ministry for Electronic Industry led by First Vice Minister S.V. Ilyushin.

At the reception, S.V. Ilyushin informed Chairman Pham Hung results of his delegation's work with leaders and experts of the Vietnamese General Department for Electronics and Informatics.

Speaking to his guest Chairman Pham Hung welcomed the Soviet guests and praised them for having worked out directions to help Vietnam's electronics and informatics industry take shape and develop.

The reception, which took place in an atmosphere of cordiality and friendship, was attended by Tran Duc Luong, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Tran Diep, head of the General Department for Electronics and Informatics; and Soviet Charge d'Affaires a.i. Kh. N. Myakotnyk.

HANOI MEETING MARKS INDIA'S 40TH NATIONAL DAY

BK150629 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Report on 13 August Hanoi meeting to mark the 40th National Day of India]

[Summary] "Tonight, the VFF Central Committee, the Vietnam Committee for Friendship and Solidarity With the Peoples of Various Countries, and the Vietnam-India Friendship Association held a solemn meeting at the Hanoi municipal theater to commemorate the 40th independence day of the Republic of India, 15 August 1947-87. The meeting's presidium included Dong Sy Nguyen, member of CPV Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Nguyen Dinh Tu, CPV Committee member and dean of Vietnam's National Institute of Atomic Energy; Trinh Ngoc Thai, deputy head of the Central Committee Department of Foreign Relations and secretary general of the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity and Friendship With the Peoples of Various Countries; Pham Van Kiet, general secretary of the VFF Central Committee; and (Ashoke Kumar Tyagi), Indian charge d'affaires in Vietnam. The delegates of various central sectors and mass organizations, and large numbers of people from Hanoi also attended the meeting."

Following the opening speech by Dong Sy Nguyen, Health Minister Dang Hoi Xuan, chairman of the Vietnam-India Friendship Association, delivered a speech.

[Begin Xuan recording] Under the guidance of outstanding leaders, the Indian people regained their independence 40 years ago, opening the new era of independence and freedom for their country. The birth of the Republic of India was an important historic world event which has strongly promoted the national liberation movements in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, and helped accelerate the collapse of colonialism in the interest of peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress. Over the past 40 years, the Indian people have scored great and glorious achievements in all fields, especially in the technological and agricultural revolution to advance the formerly underdeveloped India to the rank seventh among the developed countries of the world. [applause] [end recording]

After reviewing India's important achievements over the past 3 years under the leadership of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, Dr Dang Hoi Xuan pointed to the fine development of friendship and cooperation between India and Vietnam over the past few decades. Dr Dang Hoi Xuan continued:

[Begin Xuan recording] "The official friendship visits to India by Comrades Le Duan, Truong Chinh, and Pham Van Dong, and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's friendship visit to Vietnam in November 1985 were pure and shining symbols of the lasting relations between the two fraternal nations and the effective multifaceted cooperation between the two countries. India's wholehearted assistance to Vietnam is the beautiful flower of solidarity, friendship, and exemplary cooperation between Vietnam and India." Our people have recently received valuable support and assistance from the fraternal Indian people and government. The Vietnamese people highly valued India's clear-sighted decision to recognize the PRK no sooner than this country had escaped from genocide. India has always supported the three Indochinese countries in seeking a peaceful solution to the problems in Southeast Asia and a political solution to the Cambodian issue. India has made and is making great contributions to peace and stability in Asia and the Pacific. [applause] Although the Indian people still have to surmount many ordeals ahead of them, we are firmly convinced that under the clear-sighted leadership of Prime Minister Rajiv [Gandhi], the Indian people will achieve even more and greater successes in their national defense and construction. The Vietnamese people resolve to cooperate with the fraternal Indian people to cultivate Indian-Vietnamese friendship, making it everlasting. [applause] [end recording]

Speaking at the meeting, Indian Charge d'Affaires (Ashoke Kumar Tyagi) reviewed the difficulties encountered and successes achieved by the Indian people over the past 40 years. Dealing with India-Vietnam relations, the Indian envoy said:

[Begin (Tygi) recording in English fading into Vietnamese translation] "We can look forward to the future with the conviction and hope that bilateral relations will be developed and consolidated even more under many fruitful forms, beneficial to both sides. India treasures its friendship with Vietnam and firmly believes the friendship not only benefits both countries but also is a factor in consolidating peace and stability in this region of the world." [applause] [end recording]

The meeting ended in an atmosphere imbued with fraternal solidarity and friendship between Vietnam and India.

FOREIGN MINISTRY ACCLAIMS CENTRAL AMERICA ACCORD

OW141734 Hanoi VNA in English 1534 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 14 -- The Vietnamese Foreign Ministry today released a statement acclaiming the peace accord in Central America signed in Guatemala on August 7 by state leaders of Nicaragua, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Honduras and El Salvador.

The statement says:

"This was an important success of the Nicaraguan people, the groups of Contadora and Lima, and all peace-loving and democratic forces in Central America, Latin America and elsewhere in the world. It marked setback of U.S. imperialism which has pursued the policy of using violence, interference and aggression aimed at imposing its military solution to the regional issue."

"Abiding by its unswerving policy of supporting the national liberation struggle of the Nicaraguan people and other peoples in Central America and the world as a whole, the Vietnamese Government acclaims the signing of this accord and demands that the U.S. Administration renounce its policy of interference and aggression against Nicaragua and its hostile policy toward the Salvadoran revolutionary forces and the national liberation movement in other Central American countries, cease its support to the contras, and respect the Latin American nations' resolve and aspiration for peace as expressed in the content of the accord."

VCTU ASKS FOR 'KEY ROLE' IN RESPONSE TO NVL COLUMN

BK171645 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] The VCTU [Vietnam Confederation of Trade Unions] Executive Committee recently issued a resolution in response to articles on Things That Must Be Done Immediately. This is aimed at helping carry out the campaign to purify all party organizations and the state machinery, improve all social relations, and realize social justice. The resolution says:

Trade union organizations and the working class must play a key and leading role in this campaign. Trade union organizations must encourage workers and civil servants to bravely detect cases of negativism and ask the competent echelons to conclude and deal with these cases. They must resolutely protect their cadres, members, workers, and civil servants who are loyal and dare to struggle against negativism; streamline their inspection boards; change their operational methods; and coordinate with various state organs in investigating, clarifying, concluding, and correctly dealing with all cases of negativism and promptly settling all complaints by workers and civil servants.

Trade union organizations must organize the masses to inspect managerial work in all aspects -- especially, the management of financial affairs, materials, and goods by state organs, cadres, and personnel; the enforcement of the law; and the persecution of workers and civil servants and violations of their right to mastery. This is aimed at detecting and dealing with shortcomings.

All trade unions, especially those at the grass roots level, must scrupulously inspect their managerial work in all aspects, with emphasis on the use of assets, operational funds, social security funds, welfare projects, and collective welfare funds, so that measures can be taken to promptly overcome errors and shortcomings in these aspects.

When wrongdoings have been detected by the press, all trade union echelons must scrupulously examine and support the correct findings while suggesting measures to deal with the wrongdoers and adjust shortcomings. Based on trade union statutes, they must deal severely with cadres and party members who have exhibited and protected negative phenomena or have adopted an indifferent and irresponsible attitude toward the protection of the legitimate interests of workers and civil servants.

The resolution instructs the press of trade unions at the central level and in various sectors and localities to actively detect and reveal to public opinion all cases of negativism with an objective and constructive spirit while ensuring honesty and accuracy and upholding a sense of responsibility before public opinion.

Cooperatives Respond

BK170541 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] The Standing Committee of the Managing Board of the Central Federation of Small-Industry and Handicraft Cooperatives on 12 August instructed management committees of small-industry and handicraft cooperatives of provinces, cities, and special zones throughout the country to respond to articles by Comrade NVL on Things That Must Be Done Immediately, and regard this as a regular task to accelerate work and satisfactorily fulfill all political activities. The directive said that various echelons of the Federation of Small-Industry and Handicraft Cooperatives must quickly and satisfactorily settle letters of complaint and denunciation lodged by cooperative members and the people. All negative cases raised by newspapers and radio stations such as those at the Hai Cuong cooperative, Haiphong Municipality, and the Naoi Small-Industry and Handicraft Supply Corporation and so forth must be scrupulously examined, seriously dealt with, promptly reported to the central federation, and informed to the press.

Various organs and echelons of the small-industry and handicraft cooperatives sector have hailed various law agencies for helping the sector detect many law violations, thereby creating favorable conditions for it to fulfill assigned tasks.

The Standing Committee of the Managing Boards of the Central Federation of Small-Industry and Handicraft Cooperatives has also hailed various mass media agencies cases. The paper TIEU THU CONG NGHIEP should carry a regular column on Things That Must Be Done Immediately for its readers, while reporting on measures taken against negative cases.

PRESIDENT GRANTS NATIONAL DAY AMNESTIES

OW171939 Hanoi VNA in English 1506 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 17 -- On the occasion of the coming National Day (Sep. 2) -- The president of the State Council today decided to release, or reduce the detention terms of persons in prisons or in re-education camps.

Taken into consideration for amnesty are those who have shown repentance for their guilt, who have relatives that have rendered great services to the revolution, who are too old and sick, and who have small unattended children or whose families are facing difficulties in their livelihood.

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